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ABDUL KARIM QASSIM

OBJECTIVES OF IRAQ'S

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MINISTRY OF GUIDANCE - IRAQ

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OBJECTIVES OF IRAQI

Revolution

MINISTRY OF GUIDANCE - IRAQ



The Leader Greets Pressmen

At a Press Conference held by His Excellency Maj.-Gen. Abdul Karim Qassim, Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, at 1.40 p.m. on Wednesday, 2nd. December, 1959, at Al-Salam Hospital, in which he gave the good news of his complete recovery from the wounds he suffered after the treacherous unsuccessful attempt on his life, and in which he announced his leaving hospital.

The full text of the Press Conference held by His Excellency Maj.-Gen. Abdul Karim Qassim, Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, at 1.40 p.m. on Wednesday, 2nd. December, 1959, at Al-Salam Hospital, in which he gave the good news of his complete recovery from the wounds he suffered after the treacherous unsuccessful attempt on his life, and in which he announced his leaving hospital.

The conference was attended by a large number of Iraqi and foreign pressmen and by the correspondents of news agencies, and broadcasting and television stations.

The Leader Greets Pressmen

"My brothers the pressmen and the newsagency correspondents:

"It is a great pleasure to me, gentlemen, that I am to-day back in perfect health to serve the people and the homeland (clapping). Those who committed the attack against us were not able to eliminate what is right, nor were they able to suppress that upsurging force of all the the people in all their nationalities and creeds without discrimination. They are all brothers inside Iraq enjoying complete freedom, brotherhood, and rights and are under the same obligations. They support each other at moments of hardship. They are all devoted to serving the people and are all prepared to offer their lives for the soil of this country (clapping).

"Those who committed the attack against us were unable to extinguish the torch flaming the spirit of the Revolution which will continue as long as there are poor people and rich people. We can never come to a halt in our drive as long as there exist sarifas, ramshackle homes and classes. We intend to raise the standard of the poor to the level of the rich (clapping). We plan to raise the standard of the people to become cultural, healthy, educated and prosperous.

"I am glad to meet you again and talk to you as a brother. Some time ago I told you that the future of the country and the cementing of the ranks of the people depended on the countrymen themselves and especially on newspaper proprietors, journalists and Press correspondents. They are the missionaries of love and amity between members of the same people and between the people of Iraq and the peoples of the world.

"I request my brothers always to come back to their consciences, sincere in love of this country, and to write in accordance with what their consciences dictate in a manner ensuring the prosperity of this country. I want them to write facts and to leave aside mutual bickerings, and to discard bickerings with prejudicial foreign newspapers and radio stations. Right from this moment we shall answer the world with development projects and schemes based on factual foundations. Each time we are attacked by a radio station, each time this country becomes the target of mischief, we will devote ourselves entirely to going ahead with our projects and accomplishing the gains of the Revolution.

"The July 14 Revolution will never stop (clapping).

DEFINING REACTION

"I wish to define what reaction means in this country. Reaction represents any group and every individual plotting against the Iraqi Republic. I say this so that no one among you may give wider interpretation to this expression. We are on the watch for any one plotting against the safety of the Republic or against the gains of the Revolution in anyway or in any form. These are the reactionary and all others are but sincere countrymen devoted to serve the people.

"We do not care if a person was a feudalist or a despot. We live in the realities of today and the future. Any one plotting against the gains of the Revolution and the security of the Republic is a reactionary.

PLOTTERS ARE BUT FEW INDIVIDUALS

"Brothers, the group that plotted against us comprised a handful of individuals motivated from beyond the frontiers. The members of that group were lured by earthly attraction and deceived by money. The members of this group will be brought to account by law. Law will be able to identify the sources and motives which prompted that group to conspire against the security and sovereignty of the Republic.

"Ever since the beginning of our life we have been working for the sake of the homeland and the people. The former regime will never come back nor will the imperialists, and the covetous people ever secure a foothold in this country. The people have been liberated and the present generation has attained enlightenment. It is the members of this generation who will chase the traitors, even though these may be their own fathers, their own brothers or their relatives. This liberated generation has attained enlightenment after the country has achieved freedom and has been delivered from the rule of the foreigners, from despotism, tyranny and imperialism. Foreign troops have been removed from the country. We have restored our bases in Habaniya and Sha'eba, destroyed the Baghdad Pact, liberated our currency; got rid of the Bilateral Alliance, the Bilateral Agreement, other unequal treaties and the Eisenhower Doctrine. We have become free and have regained our dignity and our rightful place among nations. We have washed away this dishonour and have become liberated from all foreigners and avaricious people. Sovereignty has now been secured for the people of this country. The rising generation, overflowing in sincerity, strength, faith and love for the homeland will fight the agents, the traitors and the plotters no matter whether they may be their fathers, their relatives or their brothers. The members of this generation will henceforth overlook no act of treason committed by such people against the homeland.

THE FOREIGN POLICY

"We wish to amplify our policy, both external and internal, as well as our relation with our neighbours and with the rest of the world. We wish to inform you that today we have regained our complete strength. I shall leave hospital tomorrow completely recovered, and full of strength and faith (clapping and cheers).

"We have struggled for the sake of God and for the sake of this good soil which was the cradle of civilisation in ancient times, and was the centre of learning, enlightenment, patriotism and sincerity. For the sake of this good soil, I and my brothers have struggled for long along with the protracted struggle of the people. We will continue to struggle for this good soil which will uncover vast possibilities as well as enormous riches which will be spent on the people and on developing and building the country. During this conference, I shall disclose many aspects of the development programmes planned for the country.

"As regards foreign policy, we continue to adhere to our opinion and to our notification No. 1 issued on the day of the 14th of July. We are a neutral, peaceful, independent and fully sovereign country which has no aggressive designs against anyone and which can accept no interference in its affairs. We rely on ourselves. We are friends to all countries of the world. We are friends to all countries which harbour friendship and sincerity for us and which demonstrate this friendship and this sincerity. We deal with such countries on the basis of mutual interests.

IRAQ IS A NEUTRAL, PEACEFUL REPUBLIC

"We are a neutral country, opposed to groupings and military alliances. We resist aggression and we cannot tolerate aggression against us or interference in our affairs from any country.

"As to our policy towards our Moslem neighbours, we had, prior to the Baghdad Pact, ties and historical neighbourhood relations with those countries. These relations will remain immortal. In the meantime we can relinquish none of our rights. In the event of any development giving rise to dispute, to strife or to rivalry, we will seek to solve such issues by peaceful means. We have at hand adequate military, material and moral strength to back up our rights which we will seek to obtain and to solve by peaceful methods.

"Some people might enquire about the frontier issues between ourselves and friendly and neighbourly Iran. These issues usually arise between neighbours and such disputes can be solved by peaceful methods.

"We never accept intervention from any country and we refuse to come under pressure from any country. In 1937, during the rule of Bakir Sidqi and his companions in revolution and military coup, when Hikmat Sulaiman was premier, very strong pressure was brought to bear upon the Iraqi Government, when the government was in a critical situation, it granted neighbouring Iran five kilometers, which were a grant and not an acquired right, in Shat al-Arab in the direction of Abadan. That was done so that the oil companies are given the opportunity to exploit this region and avoid paying taxes to Iraq. That measure was made at the time when Iraq was in a critical situation and at that situation, Iraq granted these five kilometers to the Iranian Government which had no right to them, in the hope that the frontier problems would be solved. But they have not been solved until now. Unless they get solved in the future, we are at liberty to redeem these five kilometers as a part of the mother homeland (clapping and cheering). However we hope that the remaining frontier problems will be solved in a friendly and peaceful manner, and in accordance with justice and inter-

national conventions so as to maintain good neighbourly relations in line with justice and right.

"As to good neighbourhood relations with Turkey, we are tied with that country by ancient historical bonds which will never be severed. Our withdrawal from the Baghdad Pact does not affect the good neighbourly relations between us. Each country has its own policy. We do not interfere in the policies of the neighbouring countries, Iran, Turkey and Pakistan in connection with the Baghdad Pact. These are independent countries, pursuing their own policy in the same way as we pursue ours. We are capable of protecting our entity and safeguarding our country.

"We possess enough material, moral, and military strength to protect our position and to preserve the entity of this Iraqi Republic.

"As to our policy towards our sister Arab countries, this policy is based on brotherhood and love. The Arab countries are brothers among themselves. Between them there is the elder brother and the younger one but there is no difference between them. In our Notification No. I we referred to our relations with the Arab countries when we spoke of the formation of a popular Republic adhering to complete Iraqi unity and is tied with the Arab and Moslem countries by bonds of brotherhood.

"This is our policy with the sister Arab countries. We are prepared to co-operate with them whenever there is a call for help. We co-operate with them on the basis of solidarity in prosperity as well as in adversity.

"Henceforth we will pay no attention to any attack made against us by any of these countries, Praise be to God, there is only one source attacking us. All the Arab countries support us. This applies to Syria, Lebanon, Jor-

dan, Libya, Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria—the latter being on the road to complete liberation. All these countries and even the other Arab territories not yet liberated are with Iraq. Why? Because Iraq has become a free, liberated, and strong country enjoying a high standing among states. This is because Iraq has freed itself from imperialism and is forging ahead resolutely and with good will, and has decided to safeguard its entity. Iraq is determined to defend the entity of its brother Arab States; and is determined to free the unliberated parts of the usurped Arab Fatherland.

THE END OF TRAITORS AND PLOTTERS

"As to the existence in Syria or in Lebanon—mostly in Syria and in Egypt—of some traitors and plotters who plotted against this country, these traitors will be chased and eliminated by the Syrian people and the Egyptian people. The Syrian people and the Egyptian people can never agree to sheltering traitors assailing Iraq and working against its liberated structure. The Syrian people and the Egyptian people can never consent to provide shelter to such traitors to work against the immortal Iraqi Republic which is **free from all ties and obligations**, and which has become an independent and a fully sovereign country defending herself and defending her brethren. The end of these traitors is imminent. If they remain alive, they will be haunted by disgrace and dishonour. If they are eliminated, **that will be the fate of all traitors**. Traitors do not die. They perish and vanish. If you trace back the history of these **traitors inside Iraq** you will find that they have deep roots in treason in this country. We will refer to some of them without mentioning names. At the time of the 1920 Iraqi Revolution when the people of Iraq revolted against imperialism demanding liberation and freedom, a feudalist, one of the stooges of the foreigners, attacked

with his tribesmen the people of Deltawa and Diyala who were fighting imperialism. Later he styled himself as military governor of the Deltawa area. Later on, during the time of the exterminated and despotic regime, subservient to the dictates of the imperialists, that feudalist, that traitor, that criminal, was aggressing on the peasants, the farmers and the peaceful citizens under the protection of the government. That traitor was a chronic deputy at the exterminated House of Deputies, a name which will never be used henceforth as the new name will be the "National Assembly."

"Such persons who lost their vile gains, who lost their concessions which were devoted to sucking the riches of the people—those persons who were deprived of their lowly position have now become patriots harping on patriotism. Do you know why? Because they want to take the country back to the former regime so as to redeem some of their mean privileges. You can search history and you will come across the name of this person and know his group and his family who are past masters in treason and who are deeply committed to the imperialists. The imperialistic structure of the imperialists has gone. Now our relations are based on foundations of friendship and mutual interests. However, the stooges and the camp followers of imperialism still yearn for the corrupt life which will never return to them. Only honest and decent life will prosper in this country.

"These are but samples. Naturally their children and grandchildren are plotting against this free Republic, which is **working in the way of God and for the sake of the soil of the homeland** as well as for the people's sake.

"I wish here to impart to you that, though I have been personally attacked, I am not vindictive. I leave it to law and justice to punish those who committed the attack. I

wish however to tell you that this attack, which was concentrated on me personally, was designed to eliminate our Republic and to spark a civil war playing havoc with the country, and causing innumerable casualties of the guilty and the innocent. But these who plot care little for any lawlessness or anxieties that may occur in Iraq. They are only interested in maintaining their plots.

"The people of this country have been rallying and will continue to rally round the sincere and patriotic leadership. The plotters wanted to keep this country without leadership. By the time the people would have found a new leader, lawlessness would have resigned and supreme and innocent blood would have been extensively shed. The economic situation would have become chaotic. These were the objectives of the plotters. We have been able to detect the actual perpetrators and their instigators. The plotters have been plotting against this country for long now. We have refrained from answering them. We left it to history to punish them. By this I mean the brains which prompted those traitors to indulge in plotting whether in Rashid Ali's plot or in causing disunity among the army officers or in instigating artificial movements within the army from which the enemy benefits, or in the Mosul plot or the Kirkuk massacres, or the disturbances which prevailed in the country for some time and which were suppressed in their cradle or in the latest plot or the plots that will be repeated in the future. The imperialists and the covetous will never desist from their plottings. But we will continue to stick to the course of justice. We will continue to abide by our objectives and by the objectives of our Revolution. We will never cease pursuing our endeavours to raise the people's standard and bring prosperity to the country (clapping). We do not propose to make one man answerable for the guilts of some one else. Each person is answerable for his own conduct and responsible for his own sincerity, and his own enthusiasm. Some of the deluded

might come back to reason. Some of the extremists who have no thorough idea of the present realities will one day come to know the truth and go back to the path of reason. We never punish anyone for a crime committed by somebody else. Each person is taken in accordance with his own record of sincerity. At the Mosul plot for instance, they drove an army officer, namely Shawaf, to plot against this country. But instead of one Shawaf there are two in our present Cabinet.

"We view sincere people in accordance with their sincerity. They are unassociated with those plotting against the country's security. At the same time of the Shawaf revolution, we had one Shawaf in the Cabinet, namely the Minister of Health. Some months ago we found sincerity in another Shawaf, the present Minister of Trade. We asked him to take over his present post and he responded. He is working studiously and sincerely. From this you see that we are working in the way of God and for the sake of the homeland. The countrymen in this country know nothing but sincerity to this homeland. Kinship does not hinder the way of one man's sincerity.

THE DUTIES OF PATRIOTIC NEWSPAPERS

"Many newspapers during the exterminated regime displayed vigour in publishing political commentaries for Nuri as-Said for instance. It may be that those newspapers were prompted to do so. However the owners of those papers know themselves. But we do not propose to recall the past. We appreciate the newspaper proprietors who are working sincerely under the republican regime. We forget the past and we deal with them on the basis of their sincerity to the homeland. If any of the newspaper proprietors, reckons that he was guilty under the exterminated regime or under the regime of the immortal Iraqi Republic, it is always possi-

ble to abandon the erroneous course and come into conformity with the Revolution's line. We will not be able to protect the Revolution's line and to preserve our structure as long as some newspapers inadvertently or deliberately persist in a line instigated by the influences of the enemy who covets our country. I state frankly that the past is gone and that it is on the basis of the present that we deal with the people, newspapers, newspaper proprietors and news agencies. I have just told you that those who are plotting against the security of the Iraqi Republic are the reactionaries and the reactionaries alone. Anyone who proceeds in line with these, becomes associated with them. I do not propose to name people by the name. But I wish to emphasise that I never hold one man to account for the guilt of another. For instance there is the case of Al-Hurriyah proprietor. This newspaper has its own columnists and writers. It is definitely in line with the Revolution. The son of the newspaper's proprietor had been assigned to distribute arms in Adhamiyah to prepare plots and to carry out assassinations so as to undermine the republican regime in our country. He was formerly in contact with the Baath party in Syria and was present when the plan was laid down to carry out a coup d'etat against the patriotic Government. We do not hold the father answerable for the son's crime. The father is pressing on with his writings while the son is pressing on with his crime. However I wish to address a word to newspaper publishers: They must not allow themselves to be inadvertently carried against the entity of this Republic.

OUR STUDENTS ARE THE SUPPORT OF THE REPUBLIC

"I wish to inform you that a covetous country as well as imperialist countries are inciting and reinforcing the agents in this country from behind the screen to plot aga-

inst the security of the Republic. They have for instance wanted to delude our students, who are all without exception, sincere people whose hearts are beating in faith and sincerity for this homeland. But the covetous who pay no attention to prospects of disunity and dissention wanted to avail themselves of the opportunity to divide the people, especially the students. They have therefore sent groups from the Baath party in Syria to Iraq to organise the students and create dissention among their ranks. We have come to know the names of these agents and these names will be announced to the world. They wanted to split the students' ranks. Outwardly, their duties were to organise the students to fight anarchy as well as other elements detrimental to the students. But genuinely their purpose is to fight the immortal Iraqi Republic and to undermine her system. They have sent those persons and made them agents and groups to play the students the one against the other on the basis of the United Students Front. The United Students' Front is outwardly to fight anarchy and to serve the Republic. But genuinely it reflects the intentions of the covetous people in neighbouring countries as well as the intentions of imperialism, namely to undermine the structure of the immortal Iraqi Republic and create dissention among the students ranks. Had these students known that they were being used by foreign elements to undermine the Republic's structure they would have revolted against those who deluded them. These students are countrymen of this country. They are sincere citizens and I testify to this. They are unaware of the schemings of those covetous people. The covetous people planned to split the students' ranks by coming up with this objective which is outwardly aimed at serving right but which is really intended to cause the collapse of the Republic's structure and to assassinate sincere people. If you want to ascertain, we will soon announce the names to you. In the meantime you can review yourselves the statement

issued by the United Students' Front to see what their intentions are, who prompted them to do so or who dictated on them that statement. Have a look at that statement. Can you see any mention in it of the immortal Iraqi Republic or the Republic's leadership? The whole statement is concentrated on attacking the people.

"The whole statement is composed of mischief. It aims at causing disunity among the students. But the students will never become disunited. They will come to know those sources abroad who are driving them to that course. It was a word of right meant for falsehood. But falsehood is always doomed to failure.

"Were the students to know that the duties assigned to them were for sabotage and for undermining the structure of the immortal Iraqi Republic they would have revolted against their instigators and they would have come back to their own consciences. I hereby proclaim to my brothers the students that there is mischief lurking behind the matter. This is directed at creating disunity, breaking up the structure of the immortal Republic and plunging Iraq in a sea of blood.

WHO WAS BEHIND THE KIRKUK INCIDENTS?

"Do you know who was behind the Kirkuk incidents? We have strong evidences confirming that behind the Kirkuk incidents were those who were behind the incidents of Mosul and those who were behind the incidents and troubles that took place in various parts of Iraq. In this, they were employing their agents. It has been confirmed to us that five cells were operating in Kirkuk despatched by the Baath Party. They were organised by those who claim for themselves autho-

rity in Syria. They have been sent to Iraq to organise these cells in Kirkuk. Do you know what were the duties of those cells? Their duty was to disseminate dissatisfaction and splits and create a permanent gulf between the ranks of the people. Their task was to add fuel to fire. In one of their letters and in one of their reports they say 'we have benefited and must continue to benefit from the Prime Minister's sympathy with the people by which he has set detainees free. We must continue with this line as this is a favourable opportunity to create dissention and dissatisfaction. That is how they are showing gratitude! They are among the people. Behind the incidents of Kirkuk too were the extremist groups both from the left and from the right who are in the grip of blind fanaticism. Extremism is always abhorrent. It is like a tree whose dry branches always hurt. That group exploited the extremism of this one and widened the gap of differences. Behind the Kirkuk incidents is also imperialism which was aware of the existence of such elements. Imperialism was at work in darkness and behind the screens to promote dissension and dissatisfaction among the people of Kirkuk. Behind the Kirkuk incidents were also some old racial feuds and rivalries. All these were behind the incidents of Kirkuk. This is all in addition to the spiteful people who were living in that area. Those circumstances combined and conspired to create the Kirkuk incidents at the time of the great joy. Had it not been for the corrupt cells, which added fuel to fire, no incident disturbing peace and order would have taken place in Kirkuk. Those were the people behind the Kirkuk incidents. They were availing themselves of every joyous opportunity and of every move made by the people originally with good intention. But they always sought to exploit anything to add fuel to the fire and to widen the gap of differences between the people. Those who were behind the Kirkuk incidents were those who were guilty of aggression against us and who plotted against the security of our

Republic in Mosul, who plotted against us in the Rashid Ali movement and who plotted against us in other plots, of which we are keeping record. Beware, brothers of all agents. I am addressing a counsel to all my dear brother students all over the immortal Iraqi Republic asking them to be vigilant and cautious lest they are again deluded. They must stand one bloc struggling in the way of God and for the sake of the homeland. We stand above leanings and trends. We are liberated people. Our freedom is spacious. We are pursuing the healthy democratic line. (clapping).

DISSENTION MAKERS

"I here want to summarize the method of making mischief and creating dissention among the people of the same country. Here with me is a pamphlet issued by one of the ulema who claims to be a learned man in this country and who will be destroyed by the people if he once again stands against the people of this homeland (clapping). This learned man came up with an appearance of rightness concealing falsehood. The purpose of this was to create disunity among the people. I now here read for you some of the material from between the lines; 'Iraq is disarmed, hungry, small in number and lacking necessary means. As thus, Iraq is incapable to steer herself to ward off the greed of the Communists. Granted that Iraq has become detached from Britain and America, who can preserve Iraq from being swallowed by the fire of Communism as quickly as a wink of an eye.' Since when fighting imperialism means plunging Iraq into the fires of atheism and materialistic cruelty?

"This is but a sample of the ulema who claim to be ulema. They are working for imperialism and for disuniting the ranks of the people. You will eventually come to know this sample who wants to place the country in

the fetters of foreign forces lest we become overwhelmed by another foreign force. But we have become liberated. No force in the world can overwhelm us after Iraq has achieved liberation and has become independent and fully sovereign. These acts of falsehood cannot create disunity between the people of the same country (clapping). That was one of the ulema of the University of Learning in Kadhimiyah. Brothers, we have many other samples. Imperialism drives people like these as well as others to hang banners carrying verses from the Koran across the streets. Then another group belonging to the same ring of espionage and treason in this country would come and tear up one of these banners carrying the Koranic verses. This creates upheavals and touches off dissensions and disputes as though we are living in medieval ages, or as though we are living in past centuries during which such acts of recklessness were happening between the Moslems and the adherents of other creeds. Once a cow was slaughtered, that meant disaster. Once a pig was slaughtered and thrown in one of the mosques, that could have led to a civil war claiming a large number of victims. That was the method applied by the colonisers. But India has become liberated and Pakistan has become liberated and she knows her way towards liberation. Such idiotic things can no longer deceive either of them. These people want to have the same thing repeated in our country after our country has achieved liberation. You are called upon to consolidate the ranks and you are responsible before God, before the people and before history not to let such tricks entangle you. These tricks have an outward appearance of righteousness but inside they conceal mischief aimed at undermining the structure of the immortal Iraqi Republic.

"Another one of the ulema, identical to his above-mentioned colleague has written to some of the Ministers for onward transmissin to me stating: 'I hope the Prime Minister or the authority concerned will issue orders to

halt trains at the appointed times of prayers so that passengers can descend from their trains to perform their prayers.' Have you ever come across any such nonsense or across such mischief-making and swindling in this country. The Islamic religion is explicit, strong and noble. Prayers can be performed in trains, on ships on horse back at times of war as well as while in sick bed by people.

ARAB NATIONALISM IS VICTORIOUS IN IRAQ, THE COUNTRY OF THE FREE

These persons are resorting to such means to create disunity and trouble among the ranks of the people.

"The imperialists and the covetous had first come to undermine the structure of the immortal Iraqi Republic by making overtures to our brothers the Kurds, the Turkmans, the Assyrians and the other minorities. They wanted to split their ranks and divide them from their Arab brethren. Our Kurdish brothers came to me bringing along with them the funds and the plans that were drawn for that purpose. I made them keep the funds and I kept the evidences.

"So the imperialists and the covetous people were unable to eliminate the sincere Iraqi unity by such methods. Now they are operating from the large base, the higher base. They have claimed that Arab nationalism has been humiliated in Iraq. I proclaim to the whole world that Arab nationalism has achieved victory in Iraq. (clapping).

Arab Nationalism Triumphed in Iraq, Because Nationalism Triumphs in the Country of the Free and not in the Country of the Slaves

"This is because nationalism triumphs in the country of free people and not in the country of slaves. Arab nationalism has triumphed. Other fraternal nationalities

among whom love, amity and brotherhood prevail have also triumphed. They have triumphed by the victory of Iraq and the noble and mighty people of Iraq over imperialism and over the exterminated regime. They have triumphed by smashing up the hated monarchy, by deliverance from despotism and monopoly, by deliverance from unjust treaties and from restrictions as well as by deliverance from the bases which were used by the foreigners in our homeland. These bases have now been restored to the homeland to be under the disposal of the people as well as under the disposal of your noble Army. Arab nationalism achieves victory when the rule of the country is in the hands of the people of the country. The people of our country are now the masters of themselves. No longer are there people under the domination of others. All people are free. All of them enjoy freedom, security and peace. Let us be on the alert for those traitors, spies and agents who are bent on creating troubles and dissention among your ranks and who are working to eliminate the sincere people so as to bring the honourable people of Iraq to the silly past and to the era of anarchy and humiliation.

"Where was that learned man, who professes to preach righteousness? Where was he when our women folk and our daughters were exposed to the immoral behaviour of foreign troops? They were subject to this humiliation from South Gate to North Gate as well as in all streets and lanes of Baghdad and in every village as well as in all major towns. And in Basrah they were exposed to such immoral conduct, Cabinet ministers themselves were bringing such women to meet such humiliation. You all know this and the ulema know this. Such things were occurring under our very nose. What had happened to their dignities and to their chivalry and sincerity? The country has now become liberated and the rule has now become national rule, strong and noble, serving

the interest of the whole of the people in all their classes and with full respect to all creeds. Islam is the State religion of the country. Other religions prosper under freedom, all people are free enjoying security, peace and freedom as well as complete protection. They are all brothers. This is the healthy democratic line. All are living in an atmosphere of freedom and peace. All enjoy the same rights and are under the same obligations, all people are called upon to carry out their duties towards this homeland. Where was this learned man and other persons like him when our country was enveloped with humiliation? The photographs of some Cabinet Ministers and of some responsible people of that time along with the photographs of their children and relatives are still kept with me. I am ashamed to make these public.

"Some of those persons were surrendering their womenfolk to the royal family under their very noses. They were persons without consciences, dignity or decency. Where were those Ulema, who are now slandering this honourable, prosperous, free and strong regime, which liberated the people from enslavement, despotism and disgrace? Yes, where were they at that time? These are but the traitors and clowns who want the return of that hated regime. These are but the elements of disunity, the bribable people who are subservient to the foreigner's orders. They are moved by meagre money, for which they sell their homeland, disunite the ranks of the people, persecute their own people and cause disaster in this country. Where were those when such hardships were happening in the country. I call upon the people to be watchful for persons like these.

I am a believing man, I have faith in the people's right and in the homeland's right (clapping) until the people attain their rights. Political parties will be announced on the appointed date — Army Day. That will not be

delayed as a result of my confinement in hospital. We still stand by our pledge and our former resolution. Divergent as these parties may be, they all meet on one common point—serving the homeland and the people and working in the way of God, for the sake of this homeland's soil—this pure and good soil (clapping). I call upon you, brothers, to be on the alert for such traitors who are planning mischief and aggression against our Republic. Prejudicial propaganda always gives the world to understand that we are in a state of confusion, restlessness and instability. Praise be to God the country is enjoying the blessings of security and peace. I have already told you that crimes, murders and accidents decreased by 25 per cent over past years. This includes the losses incurred as a result of disasters and revolutions, and all records testify to this. Where then is the instability? Instability is only to be found in the broadcasting stations of mischief and swindlings. The country is stable and its structure is consolidated.

"The country is stable and its structure is consolidated. The price of the dinar abroad, as confirmed to me by a competent source outside, has increased to between £L 8.6 and £L8.70. Formerly it was between £L8.30 and £L8.40. Iraqi currency has become freed and is now very strong. This is the market price, the official rate is 8.84. This is the official price but that one is the price of demand and supply in the market. The price of the dinar is very high. It is higher than the price of the pound. This is because it is based on the overflowing riches of the people. I and the sincere people have discovered that vast riches remain to be concealed below the surface of our land. These riches are yours. They are the property of the sons of the people (clapping). Commercial deals have increased by ID. 1,000,000 in the course of two weeks. During the subsequent third week commercial deals amounted to ID. 1,850,000.

This is the volume of commercial transactions and banking business. Broadcasting stations say that our currency has come down and that we do not have money enough to spend on the people of the homeland. They claim that we are unable to pay salaries. They claim that we were compelled to cut down the salaries of our Army men.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE VICTORIOUS REVOLUTION AT PRESENT AND IN THE NEAR FUTURE

"I am now going to review for you the programmes of various ministries as well as the projects accomplished since the Revolution. Briefly I will review the projects which will be accomplished during the next four years. This will give you an idea of the progress, strength, stead, dignity, sincerity and volume of construction which will bewilder you. The people all over the world will hear of all this, and so will the sons of the people who will compare their life in the painful past and at present.

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

"I am now going to review some issues that might be of benefit to the sons of the people if they have a look at. I have availed myself of the rest afforded to me at this hospital despite our enemies. You know why they attacked us? This is because I needed some rest (clapping). I needed rest (clapping) as well as time to go through with the major projects which will give the country prosperity. I have been availing myself of every opportunity during my stay in hospital. The Almighty knows that I have not wasted one moment of my time during my stay at this hospital in spite of the injuries I have suffered. In the very first moments my physicians wanted me to rest but I always

wanted to talk to the public. The loss of one or two drops of my blood, in addition to what we lost, is not important when I talk to the people to reassure them and give them access to realities. I am all right and in good health. I am with you and you are always with me and all of us are always on the side of right. (clapping).

"The projects that have been studied by the Ministry of Industry and whose sites have since been approved by the Board of Planning are the drugs factory which is to be established in Samarra, the tinning factory to be established in Karbala and the factory for the extraction of sulphur from oil gases which is to be established in Kirkuk. The last is now under construction. Sites for other projects will be very soon fixed. These include projects for a chemical fertilizer plant, a steel plant, a plant for agricultural machineries and equipment, a plant for electrical appliances, a plant for bulbs, a plant for glassware, a plant for cotton textiles, a plant for woollen textiles, a plant for weaving, stockings and underwear, and a plant for tailoring.

"The sites for these factories will be fixed in the course of this month. Other projects which have been included in the plan to promote the national economy and raise the people's standard include the paper factory in Basra, the beetroot sugar factory in Sulaimaniya, the liquid sugar factory in Karbala, the rayon factory at Hindiyah Barrage, the silk textile factory in Hilla, the factory for the exploitation of natural gas in Basrah, the gas will be used as fuel for the power station, the fertilizer plant, the caustic soda plant and the plastic plant. The Ministry of Industry will accomplish studies for these projects within the next few months.

"The Ministry of Industry has now laid down constructional designs for the popular shoe factory. Building work on this factory will start within the next three months. In

the meantime the Ministry of Industry is devoting attention to the projects concerning power stations in North Iraq, in the centre and South.

"These projects are among the most vital in the country. The Ministry of Industry is now engaged in examining the power stations prior to taking delivery of them from the foreign companies, which were originally assigned to accomplish this and handing them over to Iraqi firms. The Ministry of Industry has also taken the necessary measures to lay down electric lines for various parts of Iraq. We will be able to supply each remote village in Iraq with electricity—Iraq which possesses enormous wealth, good soil and noble people. — The Ministry of Industry has also taken steps to operate the medical cotton plant which has been left unoperated for several years for no valid reason. We have made up for the shortcoming of this plant which will go into operation within the next few months. It will thus be possible to supply health establishments in Iraq with their requirements from this factory's output.

"As far as industry is concerned, the Industrial Bank has contributed by ID. 500,000 to the creation of the Light Industries Company. This sum will be offered for public subscription so as to create some light industries' projects such as factories for batteries, radios, air conditioners, washing machines, domestic and health appliances which will satisfy the needs of the Republic of Iraq. Of these we will have a surplus for exports. This is but a brief summary concerning the Ministry of Industry.

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

"Now we come to the accomplishments made by the Ministry of Finance since July 14, 1959. Accomplishments made by the Ministry of Finance prior to that date have already been announced. The Ministry of Finance has is-

sued the Pension Law for officials and employees of semi-official departments. All officials and employees of such semi-official departments are now enjoying the same rights to pension as those ensured by official departments. Before, officials and employees of semi-official departments were like vagabonds with no securities, but simply provident funds. Now however these officials and employees enjoy adequate securities for themselves and for their families in the future. Another law was promulgated under which the Treasury bears the annual duties of the Social Security for officials, which were formerly borne by the officials themselves. Formerly it was the Government official himself who bore the costs of Social Security. The line pursued by the Iraqi Republic aims at ensuring the people's welfare including the Government official, the merchant, farmer, peasant, worker, employee, scientists, and every individual of this people. The line pursued by the immortal Iraqi Republic aims at raising the standard of all these and ensuring their welfare. The Civil Pension Law has been amended to the advantage of the family of any Government official who dies before completing 15 years of service. Formerly the Government official qualified for pension only after completing 15 years' service. The amended law made provisions for the cases of Government officials who are some months short of the 15 years' level. At the recommendation of the Minister and the approval of the Council of Ministers such a period can be added to the duration of the deceased official's service for the welfare of the family he leaves behind. Formerly too, female Government officials, employees and teachers were not entitled to a leave for childbirth. Now they are entitled to such a leave which they actually deserve in accordance with the law. Further the law to appoint and promote Government employees has been enacted for the welfare of such employees and to increase their salaries. The Ministry of Finance has also added approximately ID. 6 million to allocations made for

health and educational services. That was because the revenues received were in excess to assessments for the outgoing period of the fiscal year. I now tell you that when we allocated the budget for this year, it was estimated that revenues for this year would be ID. 95 million. But I fixed spendings at ID. 110 million, i.e. an excess of ID. 15 million over the estimated revenues. They asked why? My answer was that revenues would be in excess to assessment. That was what actually happened. Revenues exceeded assessments and we were thus able to allocate an additional sum of ID. 6 million for health and educational services and for the Ministry of Guidance.

"ID. 3 million was allocated to supply peasants in requisitioned lands with seeds and financial subsidies. ID. 1,000,000 each was allocated to the agricultural and Estate Banks so as to expand their services to Government officials. And yet broadcasting stations broadcast that our economy is deteriorating. But economy is reinforced by realities, figures, revenues and reinforced by sincerity. Not one fil from this country's wealth will find its way outside Iraq or to the pockets of bribable people or thieves. This wealth is in honest hands and will be spent for the people's interests (clapping). The Estate Bank has also reduced interests. We have arranged with the Bank not only to increase funds available for loans, but we wanted the Bank to reduce the interest which has been reduced from five per cent to four per cent since July 14, 1959.

"The Tariff Law has also been amended by adding tariffs on luxury commodities to restrict their import so as to preserve national wealth and protect national industry. The anti-smuggling measures have been reinforced and a Customs Institute has been opened in Baghdad to prepare officials, train them on Customs duties and teach them the laws and plans concerned. The Income Tax Law

has been amended to ensure justice in collecting income taxes so that they will be proportional to the capabilities of the person paying them. Reasonable exemptions have been made for Government officials with limited incomes, thus making them equal with their brothers, the merchants and the industrialists, on the basis that the tax should be proportional to the individual's capability. As a result of this many low paid persons were exempted from income tax, so as to help the low-income people.

"Sometime ago the Death Tax Law was enacted to narrow down discrepancies in wealth and to apply social justice. I believe you have read that law which was published in the official gazette.

"The Immovable Property Tax Law has also been promulgated to replace the old one. The new law is intended to ensure justice and to encourage investments in national capital as well as investments in new buildings, especially those concerning industrial projects.

"The Ministry of Finance has distributed approximately 3,000 plots of Miri land at a nominal price ranging from 100-250 fils per square metre. Those plots of land were distributed to Government officials, co-operative societies' members, and small officials and employees near Daoudiyah area, Mansur and Waziriyah. Other plots are to be given and this will be soon announced. These measures are intended to help the sons of the people and the needy. Credit facilities have increased by approximately ID. 2,000,000 during last month, something which reflects commercial revival as a result of the stability and confidence that prevail in markets in the wake of the violent tremors, the latest of which was this one which shook the country.

"I hope this country will prosper and will proceed in peace instead of becoming exposed to tremors. We give our efforts and blood for this country. Imports from abroad at present have also increased by approximately

ID. 5,300,000. Exports also increased. The prices of some local commodities have even increased in view of excessive exports. The larger the volume of exports becomes, the greater is the country's prosperity ensuring good and benefit for the sons of this people.

"In answer to the query made by a member of the Press about the Civil Service Law, this law is ready before us and is under consideration. We shall not forget any individual of this people. We are working step by step to bring this people to a high level of strength and advancement (clapping).

THE MINISTRY OF TRADE

"I now wish to speak about the Ministry of Trade. Some prejudiced people claim that our economy is collapsing. Our economy is prosperous. The funds available to us are vast. I now wish to talk to you about regulating imports. Imports are organised on thoroughly-studied scientific bases, aimed at fixing prices by ensuring the availability of various commodities and encouraging productive savings and local industry as well as supervising prices. A system of supervision has been created at the Ministry of Trade which has pursued an elastic policy.

"With respect to granting import permits, formerly many merchants became bankrupt. Now no merchant stands to lose. Why? Because we have allocated import quotas for each merchant. Each merchant is now importing a limited amount of commodities. All merchants are now importing. So if a merchant faces a loss, that will be a limited one. We do protect such a merchant. No merchant will ever stand to lose. Any such loss will be partial.

"We have been able to stabilise the prices of the consumer goods. We always take into consideration the food of the people. The prices of consumer goods such as wheat,

rice, sugar, tea, cotton textiles, canned food and domestic appliances, are still stable, despite the fact that they rose in the country of origin. How did we tackle this aspect and stabilised the prices? We have overcome that through international competition. We have permitted imports from various countries and through this we were able to overcome rises in prices. Some of these prices are on the decline in spite of the fact that some of them are high in the country of origin due to the competition between markets of the Western and Eastern countries in offering their goods to merchants. Offer and demand go in opposite ratios. Some merchants had imagined that wheat stocks in our country were relatively small. So they stopped selling their stocks. One of our colleagues then suggested that the prices of wheat should be controlled. My view was contrary to that. I said that we must import large quantities of wheat to compel most of the merchants to sell their stocks. If the offer becomes greater, we might be able to re-export these quantities. We have imported quantities of wheat for the I'asha scheme all over Iraq. Wheat prices have come down all over Iraq as a result of that measure. The I'asha has been going ahead with its programme. In addition to bread and samoun which are distributed to bakeries the Directorate General of I'asha has been distributing wheat at cheap prices to the public, these prices being less than cost prices. The purpose of these measures is to ensure food to the people and to promote their welfare. We have also done our best to keep low the prices of other essential commodities such as oil, sugar, soap and gasoline. The prices of these commodities continue to be steady. Then where is this artificial wave of high prices claim to be in the country. They say that one egg is sold at 20 fils as though there is nothing but eggs in the country, as though there are no other commodities. The more funds are available to the people the higher is their standard and the greater is their prosperity. There might be some sporadic factors such as sickness among poultry and animals.

Whenever they find high prices in one Nahiyah they claim that high prices are enveloping the markets. The availability and abundance of more money with the people is one of the causes contributing to high prices. Exports are also contributing to raising the prices of some commodities. We hold those responsible. If one commodity is sold at five shillings, which I lack, then this commodity is expensive. If the same commodity is offered at ten, of which I have many, then it is very cheap. The people will be in possession of an enormous wealth. Every member of the public will be prosperous. We follow the same line in our economic policy. We have organised the system of export by entering into trade agreements, by sending delegations abroad, by organising Iraqi exhibitions in various countries, by pursuing a policy of impartiality in economic relations. As a result of this there has been a greater demand on our products from various sources. As I have told you the great demand on these products have caused their prices to rise inside the country. This applies to dates, cotton and animal products. We have established a new service under the name of the Government Transactions Service. This organisation provides a safety valve and precludes any monopolies. Whenever the Government senses any act of monopoly or any manipulation in prices, this organisation steps into the market to protect the people from excessive high prices and protect also the products of the people from slumps. The consistent policy of the patriotic Government has always been to protect the people, to protect their products and to ensure their welfare. Our primary duty is to find markets for Iraqi cement. While still in hospital I can tell you that I have been able to find foreign markets for this cement at high prices, which at present came to a slump in our country. This is because the Iraqi cement is the best in the world. The soil is good, the factories are good and the working hands are clean, strong and sincere. We are capable of exporting 750,000 tons of cement. This

will cause the industry to flourish. Presently the proprietors of cement factories have been forced to amalgamate some of their factories for fear of slumps. I and the Ministry of Trade have found foreign markets for these. That was in the same way as we have formerly found markets for the Iraqi dates. By finding these markets and by increasing production we will be able to combat the powers which had usurped a part of the territory of this homeland by their products and by enforcing a boycott and will be able to preserve the rights of the Arab nation in general and the rights of the Iraqi people in the Middle East area in particular.

INSURANCE COMPANIES

"As to the insurance companies, there are several of them at the present time. We are now endeavouring to establish an insurance company based on firm foundations. This will have a capital of ID. five million. These companies will be a source of blessings, good and revenue to the people.

"At hand we have now a Bill which will soon be announced to the people. This is the Bill for confining agencies to Iraqis. Most of the agents are now foreigners. We are endeavouring to promulgate this Bill thereby confining agencies to Iraqis and avoiding the infiltration of vast sums of money to the outside world.

DATES

"As to the dates, you all know the story, and the slumps that used to come in the way of the dates trade. Now dates are on demand in the world. All this year's harvest of dates has been sold. The people of the country can now scarcely procure some of the dates for themselves. The dates have been sold to markets in America and

Europe as well as to the new markets in the countries of the Eastern bloc. The value of Basrah dates exported to those markets is estimated at about one million dinars. This only applies to Basrah dates. The Dates Service used to buy these dates. Now we have made the Dates Service a Government one. During the current year we have paid prices for the dates higher by 25 per cent than former prices. This led to greater prosperity for the people. Nevertheless we have been able to ensure meagre savings from this service—so meagre as to scarcely meet the requirements of the service. We do not wish any foreigner to compete with the people in their livelihood. Last year's prices have increased by 25 per cent. The people of Basrah and the newspaper men know this, I believe. As to the dates of the central area, we have ensured the exportation of no less than 100,000 tons of these dates—the Zahdi dates—to markets in India, and the Middle East. This is in addition to the finding of other markets for Zahdi dates in Italy. We have made our dealings with Italy stand on the basis of mutual profits. If Italy refrains from buying Iraqi dates, then we do not absolutely desire to import from her. The Italian side wanted to co-operate with Iraq on the basis of this understanding. Italy has now become an importer of our dates and a trade balance with her was started. As a result of finding markets for Iraqi dates, the price of dates in Basrah rose to ID. 16 per ton during this year. Formerly it ranged from ID. 4-5 per ton. Now it is ID. 16 per ton. The price had never been higher than ID. 7. In many past years only a small portion of Iraqi dates was sold. The rest was either thrown out into the river or offered to animals as fodder. Some date growers and farmers abandoned their crops to the whole sale sellers because they did not cover the transport costs. Through increasing the prices of dates, the producers had clearly benefited, for as I told you the price of dates in Basrah was ID. 16 per ton. As regards last season's dates more than 80,000 tons were exported to East Europe, Italy and Germany for in-

dustrial purposes at prices three times higher than those of the pre-Revolution prices. The Ministry of Trade has also a plan which will soon be studied and put into effect. The purpose of this plan is to ensure presses for Zahdi dates so as to raise their prices to ID. 16 per ton and perhaps ID. 30 or ID. 40, provided that we spend little on each ton of zahdi dates, we shall gain profits many times greater than the money spent. This plan is now under consideration. Currently, we are assessing the situation. If we discover that the circumstances are favourable, then we shall carry the plan into effect. The Ministry of Trade now has plans to build modern packing factories for the central area. Twenty-three presses have so far been purchased. They will be installed next year in various areas as soon as the necessary storage facilities are provided. It will, then be possible to export zahdi dates well-packed and at high prices. This will lead to ameliorating the growers' conditions in a manner ensuring their welfare. Several co-operative societies will be established to ensure this.

TOBACCO

"As to tobacco, this year's crop was 2,000 tons higher than last year's. This year's crop was 7,000 tons whereas last year's was only 5,000. Tobacco prices have also increased by 30 and even 50 per cent in some cases. The net revenue of one donum of land growing tobacco has reached ID. 70 and ID. 75. Formerly it was ID. 40-50. This increase in income meant greater prosperity for tobacco growers. This will continue in future years in view of the fact that growing of tobacco is receiving encouragement. Some persons have been sent abroad to study matters connected with the growing of tobacco. The output of tobacco will be increased to 9,000 tons. This will make it possible for us to export tobacco as well as cigarettes. A cigarette factory will also be established in Sulaimaniyah Liwa. This

will be modern and its output will possibly be earmarked for exports.

SILOS

"As regards silos, which are the responsibility of the Ministry of Trade three large silos have been built in Mosul, Arbil and Hilla. Work is under way to complete the Basrah silo which will be the biggest of its kind in the East. This silo will have a capacity of 65,000 tons. Two more silos, each with a capacity of 12,000 tons will be established, in accordance with a special agreement, one in Kut and the other in Baghdad. This is in addition to the small silos project now under study. The more silos we have, the better will be our wheat situation and the more our prospects to find markets abroad for our wheat.

EXHIBITIONS

"Demand for our products has increased this year due to the holding of Iraqi fairs. The Iraqi fair was held last year to publicise Iraqi products, strengthen economic relations with foreign countries and sell Iraqi products. The Iraqi pavilions in Leipzig, Germany and in Poland, as well as in Brno, Czechoslovakia and Zagreb, Yugoslavia and London and Tunis were visited by a very large number of people. Iraq will take part in the Agricultural Fair in New Delhi as well as at the Berlin Fair and in the fair to be held in Kabul, Afghanistan. Spendings on fairs are relatively small—not exceeding one tenth of corresponding former spendings.

MARITIME TRANSPORT

"The Minister of Trade has now a project for a small maritime transport organisation which is now just a nucleus. A tender has been announced for the construction of two ships, 5,000 tons each, which will provide a nucleus for the Iraqi Merchant Navy. The day will come when Iraqi

ships will sail across the seas (clapping). This is a brief account concerning trade, which demonstrates to you that commerce is flourishing in our country. Other details which we will not discuss at present will be contained in a pamphlet prepared by the Ministry of Guidance.

THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

"Now I want to talk to you about development projects organised by another Ministry, the Ministry of Communications. Presently we have a very large network of main roads. These roads are macadamised in accordance with modern techniques. Roads will extend to each of Iraq's remote villages. Means of transport will get to every village in Iraq along with electricity and drinking water. At hand, we have now projects for the construction of the following highways: Taouq-Toz, Kirkuk-Tasluja, Tasluja-Derbendi Khan, Karbala-Najaf, Mushahida-Samarra, Samarra-Baiji, Nassiriyah-Suq al-Shiyukh, Falluja-Ramadi, Baghdad-Kut, Jalawla-Derbendi Khan, Hillah-Hindiyah-Kerbala, Mussayeb-Hindiyah Barrage, Kosanjak-Ridar, Kosanjak-Taqtah and Dokan-Rania. Eight bridges will be constructed on these roads. The road between Rania, Sankasar and Qalat Diza has been opened. Five bridges were built along this road. This is in addition to the motor vehicles bridge in Baqubah, the Abbassiyat Bridge and the two Khir Bridges. Some of these projects have been completed while others are still under construction. Soon, other projects for which allocations have already been made and announced, and all particulars were decided, will be started.

"This includes the building of the following roads: Kut-Amarah, Baquba-Tuz, Abul Khasib-Karmat Ali, Abul Khasib-Fao, al-Mussayeb-Karbala, Sayid Sadiq-Halabcha, Abu Sekhir-Meshkhab, Diwaniyah-Abu Sekhir, Sulaimaniyah-Arbad, Baiji-Qayarah, Redar-Taqtah, Kut-Nassiriyah and Jalawla-Kifri-Tuz. This involves the building of Kar-

mat Ali Bridge, Kut Bridge, Karradah Bridge, Abu Sekhir Bridge, **Diyalah Bridge** on the Kut Road, Dora Bridge, North Gate Bridge and Falluja Bridge. There are other projects to improve the network of minor roads. The specifications of these roads and bridges had been prepared and work will be started soon. You will be able to drive along these roads in the near future. We have resources enough to develop the country.

RAILWAYS

"As regards the Directorate General of Railways which is a subsidiary of the Ministry of Communications, survey has been started for the Baghdad-Basrah standard gauge line. This will make it possible to increase the speed of trains to 80 kilometres per hour as the speed presently is less than that, because the line is narrow. Surveys will be started for the Kirkuk-Sulaimaniyah Railway line. This railway line will be established when iron ore deposits are found in commercial quantities. Modern air-conditioned railway wagons will be bought for the Iraqi Railways. These wagons will be as comfortable as the famous wagons-lits used by civilized countries. You all know the state of railway transport in the pre-Revolution period. Most of the passengers from among the people rode in luggage wagons. In the future there will only be two classes, a coach class and a sleeping one. Work is under-way to build the East Baghdad Railway Station, beyond the East Bund to replace the present North Baghdad Railway, and East Baghdad Railway. Railway stations will be supplied with water coolers for the benefit of passengers. Houses for railway workers will be enlarged from a one-room house to a two-room one complete with necessary amenities. The Railways Directorate will also expand the Shalchiyah workshops in order to increase their output. So far 1,200 houses have been built for the railways. Another 550 are under construction. Other

areas are now being set aside for houses and establishments for the railway.

IRAQI AIRWAYS

"As regards the Iraqi Airways a new line, the Baghdad-New Delhi line was opened this year. Two more lines from Baghdad to London were opened via Beirut, Athens and Prague. The agreement that had been concluded with the BOAC before the July 14 Revolution has been revised. We have obtained new gains which will soon be announced. That company was at complete liberty in handling the people's affairs and money through an unequal agreement. Now we have started concluding an equal agreement with the same company ensuring Iraq's rights on the basis of mutual profits. Soon we will obtain up-to-date passenger planes for our internal and external air services. ID. 500,000 has been allocated for this project. In addition we have reserve funds running into several millions for the purchase of very modern and huge passenger planes. Planes used on the internal flights may have only limited number of passengers, because the Iraqi Airways are also concerned about commercial interests and wish to avoid losses.

THE DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL AVIATION

"Concerning the Directorate General of Civil Aviation a school has been opened to train students in the technique of civil aviation. For this we have enlisted the help of world experts supplied by the U.N. International Aviation Organisation, a fact which will add to the proficiency of the technicians and will expand this aspect in the future. All preparatory works have now been completed for the construction of a civil airport which will be one of the largest and most modern of airports in the East. A new site has been selected for this airport. This airport will be able to receive the most modern jet passenger planes. It will be a main centre of air communications between the

countries of the world and will cost more than ID. 10 million. This money, brothers, is now available.

IRAQI PORTS

"As to the Directorate of Ports and the Directorate of Navigation, work has been started to improve navigation in the rivers of the Tigris, Euphrates and Shatt al-Arab. Presently we have technicians who are carrying out research work as well as surveys in this connection. The building of a factory for river boats has been started. Further, more than 100 houses have been built for the staff of the Basrah Ports Directorate, and another 174 houses whose specifications had been prepared and announced, will be also built for them. A tender has been awarded for the supply of tugs each with 1,500 horse power at a price of ID. 612,000 for the ports. Another tender was awarded for the supply of eight motor boats at a price of 71,000. Another tender will be awarded for the supply of two more tugs at ID. 157,000 and ID. 232,000.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POSTS, TELEPHONES, AND TELEGRAPHS

"As to the Directorate General of Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs, the set-up and cadre of this Directorate, have been revised. We concentrated our attention on providing telephones for the public, and we were able to add 3,000 numbers to the West Exchange system. Soon we will be able to add another 3,000 numbers to the South Exchange. Later this month, the expansion of the North Exchange will start with the addition of another 3,000 numbers. Work is now underway to establish the East Exchange at Sheikh Omar which will have 20,000 numbers. This will make it possible for anyone needing a telephone to have one. The overall costs along with the cost of the building which is under construction will amount to ID. 1,000,000 for the East Exchange. Telephone services all over Iraq

will also be expanded. We will make every village within reach of the telephone system. Automatic or manual telephone exchanges will be established in villages. Necessary arrangements have also been made to expand telephone communications between Iraqi towns as well as between Iraq and the outside world. This is a brief account of the projects sponsored by the Ministry of Communications concerning communications.

THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING

"As regards housing projects I will give a brief summary of the projects accomplished by the Directorate General of Housing after July 14. Since that date, the Directorate of Housing has accomplished nine various projects in Baghdad, Mosul, Kirkuk, Basrah, Saadiyah and Dibilis.

"These projects cover some 5,701 families. The costs for this year have amounted to approximately ID.9,830,000. Presently there are 27 projects under construction spread in Baghdad, Sulaimaniyah, Sarchinar, Kut, Amarah, Mosul, Karbala, Mussayeb, Kirkuk, Nassiriyah, Ramadi, Arbil, Baquba, Diwaniyah and Salman Pak. These projects aim at providing accommodation for 3,369 families at an overall cost of approximately ID. 11 million. Some of these projects are big while others are small. Presently there are 21 more housing projects to be announced involving a total cost of approximately ID. 36,500,000. Funds for these projects are available. Thus far are projects concerning housing.

"There are other building projects sponsored by the Ministry of Housing. Of these 34 are under construction and some completed. These projects include new hospitals, police posts, public squares, water pipeline establishments,

nutrition institutes, scientific laboratories, law courts buildings, out-patients clinics, educational centres, elementary teachers' training institutes and industrial institutes. You will have full details of these projects in pamphlets which will be issued by the Ministry of Guidance. For lack of time I am not going now into details of these projects. We have now 12 projects whose allocations are fixed which are ready to be announced. Further, we have 34 projects which will be announced within the next six months, before July 14 next. The details, my brothers, are many, and all will be explained by the Ministry of Guidance and the concerned ministries.

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

"I now wish to speak about the Ministry of Education. I am going here to quote figures which you can confirm from the records of the Ministry of Education. Before the Revolution, the Ministry of Education budget was limited at ID. 16 million. Now it is ID. 30 million. I have asked the Minister of Education that the Ministry of Education should contribute ID. 5 million to the university budget on the grounds that the university is that Ministry's responsibility. The remaining ID. 5 million will be raised from other sources. This money will be spent on ensuring a healthy education for the rising generation based on social justice, love of the fatherland, sincerity, non-discrimination and eliminating dissention. The students are brothers among themselves who will protect the homeland at present and who will take over leadership in the future. (clapping).

"According to figures taken from records, the number of students sent abroad from 1921 until 1958 was 2,021. Adding to this number some scholarships, we can raise the total to 2,400 or possibly to 2,600. Since the Revolution

more than 3,000 students have been sent abroad. If we add to this total 800 students studying on their own expenses and qualifying for half subsidies from the Government the overall total will exceed 4,000. The Ministry of Education is now paying subsidies to 800 students studying abroad. More than 3,000 students have been sent abroad on the expense of the Ministry of Education. We hear of propaganda reports which say: 'How is it possible to ensure the money necessary for this.' We have enough funds for this. No stealing of public money will ever take place in the future. No money will be stolen but it will be spent on science, work, industry and commerce and on raising the standard of the people (clapping). Before the Revolution not more than 160 Arab students were in Iraq. Now there are 4,000 students from other Arab countries studying in Iraq. This reflects the feelings of genuine brotherhood harboured by Iraq towards her sister Arab countries (clapping). These students are studying at the expense of the immortal Iraqi Republic. In the future we will accept more of them when the projects sponsored by the Ministry of Education for providing accommodation, hostels and boarding sections along with other institutes and laboratories, are completed. Before the Revolution the number of students in Iraq was 500,000. The number has now risen to 818,880. This is in addition to some other anti-illiteracy schools sponsored by the Ministry of Education.

"Before the Revolution the number of members of the teaching profession was 17,032. Now this number has risen to 27,122. If we add to this another small number of teachers in institutes and schools, the total reaches more than 27,405 teachers and professors who are actually practising teaching at present. They used to wonder how Iraq will find the number of school-teachers required for her. We will find good school-teachers of both sexes and we will benefit from the noble scientists of this country and

other countries of the world which hold science and learning in high esteem. We will bring any school-teacher capable of serving the interests of the university and the country. We depend on our vast riches for expanding knowledge and learning. This what concerns the Ministry of Education regarding students and teachers of both sexes, missions, budget and cadres. We will come back to the Ministry of Education when we review a resume of the four-year plan. You will then see the number of schools that will be built for the students as well as the number of institutes, hostels, universities, colleges and laboratories. You will be astonished by this. We are heading for a formidable scientific renaissance. Soon we will stand in no need of teachers from other countries but will help other countries in the same way as they helped us. We will help them without asking them to be grateful for any favours on our part. We rely on ourselves. We hold in great esteem the factors of noble attitudes and chivalry. We can never abandon a country in the middle of an academic year leaving that country at a loss. In the past some of our brothers who were earning salaries and allowances running up to about ID. 500,000 had left our country under a deliberate order. They were yearning to remain in this country but they were made to leave against their will so as to cause us confusion. At that time we declared total mobilisation to ensure the smooth going of education. Every Government official, every merchant and every intellectual capable of teaching any subject offered to teach free. These are the sons of this noble people who hold high their pride and dignity, who concentrate on building the future and who are keen not to leave the students in any state of uncertainty. Most of our brothers readily and sincerely offered to teach, and as a result we were able to overcome the difficulty. We were able to bring the programme to completion. This year we have increased the number of teachers as well as the number of students very substantially (clapping).

THE MINISTRY OF GUIDANCE

"Now I want to review for you some of the projects of the Ministry of Guidance. Our assignment for the Ministry of Guidance was to establish an organised cadre ensuring the rendering of proper services to Iraq and giving a true impression of Iraq to the people and to the world.

"A Directorate General of Guidance and Press has been established. Its purpose is to supervise guiding the people and educating them. This directorate has made considerable achievements including the publication of the monthly pictorial New Iraq Magazine. This magazine has met with favourable reception from the people as well as in the outside world. This magazine has been published in both Arabic and English. The same organisation has started publishing series of books to expand general culture and to make the people fully aware of all aspects of public life in their country. Further, in cooperation with the Journalists' Union, this Directorate has been rendering necessary help to elevate the standard of journalism and help the Press go smoothly. The main task in this field devolves on you, O newspapermen. The people depend on you, on your faith, sincerity and determination to defend this Republic which is now fully consolidated. It is your duty to gather the ranks of the people and explain to them the intents of agents, covetous people and imperialists. It is your duty to make clear to the people the treachery perpetrated by these elements against the Republic and this country's entity which has now achieved liberation and in which security and the rule of justice prevail. We shall never go back. We shall never go back to the rule of the imperialists and to the rule of the covetous. The people determine their own destinies by themselves and by their own free will. We give them complete support and we are prepared to die for them and to consolidate this structure for which we have struggled so long to establish.

We are working in the way of God and for the sake of the people and the homeland. We will vanish in carrying out this pledge. (clapping).

"Further, the information branch at the Ministry of Guidance has also expanded. Soon it will undertake to distribute books, magazines and other literature of guidance inside and outside Iraq. I request the Ministry of Guidance to send to our missions abroad copies of the daily papers as early as possible by air mail and even by private means of communications if such means can ensure the newspapers' delivery on the same day. Iraqis living abroad as well as the friends of Iraq in the outside world are desirous of keeping themselves informed of reports on Iraq as well as the extent of the progress achieved by this country and the extent of endeavours and day to day efforts exerted in this direction. I hope that this issue will be taken into consideration and commenced as from today. The Ministry of Guidance does send some newspapers abroad but I want more to be sent.

"A Directorate General of Radio and Television has been established and has achieved the following projects. As regards the Directorate of TV, a unit for newsreels has been established. The TV Directorate has installed a new transmitter five kw. strong which before was half kw. strong. The new radio and TV transmitters will be tremendously powerful and will cover all parts of Iraq. Initially 70 per cent of locations in Iraq will be covered. By installing this transmitter we were able to ensure favourable TV reception in areas extending to Hilla, Karbala, Miqdadiyah, most of the Diyala districts and part of Ramadi Liwa. TV reception could not be ensured for Ramadi Liwa itself but, I believe, TV programmes can be received in Habbaniyah. We have now studios underway to expand and strengthen TV transmission pending the new station's installation.

"As to the Directorate of Broadcasting, you all know of the new studios which have recently been inaugurated and which we named Al-Ukhua (brotherhood) studios, a very proper name indeed.

"Another new step by the Ministry of Guidance is the establishment of the Iraqi News Agency. Here is a sample of these illustrative documents. The Iraqi News Agency issues daily bulletins in Arabic and English. In addition there is the full monitoring report of foreign broadcasts, which is studied, printed and issued daily. This report is published daily. This news agency is without precedent in Iraq, that is why reports on Iraq were handled in a most haphazard manner by foreign news agencies—some friendly, some prejudicial — and how many indeed are such prejudicial sources! May the Almighty protect us from the mischief of mischief-makers. We will proceed with faith, with a sense of justice and righteousness and will never depart even by a hair's breadth from the course of justice. Nor shall we ever compromise by a hair's breadth on the rights of the homeland (clapping).

"The Ministry of Guidance is working on a Cinema and Theatre Law which will soon be promulgated. We will help this Ministry carry out this useful project and we will help all artists and people of experience in our country.

"Projects under study by the Ministry of Guidance and which will duly be accomplished include the building of new premises for the broadcasting station, including 19 studios capable of transmitting 10 different programmes simultaneously. A broadcasting station will be established at Salman Pak with four transmitters for the short wave and two transmitters for the medium wave, each 150 kw strong. Medium wave transmission will be 300 kw strong, capable of being increased to 600 kw. According to experts this level of transmission is adequate. If the present power is not enough this can be doubled. Two more trans-

mitters on the medium wave have been established in other parts of Iraq, each 150 kw. strong. A hall for Press conferences will also be established along with another hall for official events. A modern theatre has also been provided. This is in addition to the theatre which will soon be built. We are at a loss whenever a foreign arts' team comes to Iraq. The legacies of the exterminated regime are numerous. We are at a loss about the expenditures that were made over the heads of the people who were fettered.

"A TV centre, with seven studios will be established in Baghdad by which two programmes can be simultaneously transmitted to Baghdad and to the provinces. I wish to inform you that TV will eventually cover Basrah as well as our neighbour, friendly Kuwait (clapping).

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

"Now I move on to review briefly the projects and some of the gains of the Ministry of Health. All medical check-ups and medical treatments are now offered free to the people. It is now possible to send patients abroad at the State's expense if this is considered necessary. We have already announced this to the people some time ago. Our hospitals have been supplied with drugs, beds and all modern requirements, ensuring the comfort of the patient and contributing to speedy recovery.

"A medical college was opened in Mosul this year and is now functioning. This is one of the most modern medical colleges in the world. It has been supplied with all required laboratories, halls and facilities for the admission of 200 students. Study has actually started in it. Attached to it is a nursing school. This is one of the gains of your Revolution. More hospitals and clinics have been opened all over the Iraqi Republic. These include the Arbil hospital with a capacity of 500 beds, the Ramadi Hospital with

500 beds, the Mental Diseases Hospital with 500 beds, the Amarah Hospital with 200 beds, the Khanagin Hospital with 200 beds as well as 48 clinics and 18 centres for mother and child care and a number of maternity centres. These hospitals and clinics were supplied with 7,000 beds with their accessories this year. All large and small hospitals have been supplied with X-ray equipment and medical preparations. Twenty-seven mobile hospitals have been provided along with a number of river hospital ships for the marsh lands. The people of the marsh lands are the victims of diseases with nobody coming to their aid. Now we will always be with them. Medical services will be made available to them and we will look after their rights in line with the other citizens (clapping).

"A full meal is offered to all school children in elementary schools along with distributing milk to some of them. In the field of disease prevention, malaria has been eliminated and the campaign to eliminate bilharzia has started. All citizens have been vaccinated against small-pox and all children have been injected against whooping cough. The following projects for which allocations have already been made and which are sponsored by the Minister of Health will soon be established: the project of the pharmaceutical materials and antibiotics factory which will meet the requirements of the country. Attached to this factory will be a farm for medical experiments. Two days ago I believe some friendly sources presented me with a tractor and ploughing machine which I turned over to the farm. The Minister of Health took delivery of these machines and they are ready to be operated.

"Other projects which will be started include the Republican Hospital in Baghdad which will be built on the River Tigris and which will contain 1,000 beds, the Republican Hospital in Basrah which will be built on the beautiful Shatt al-Arab and which will have 1,000 beds, the 500-bed Republican Hospital in Amarah to be built on the River

Tigris, the 500-bed Lepers' Hospital in Amarah which is now being reorganised in accordance with sound scientific foundations, the 1,000-bed Chest Diseases Hospital in Mosul. In addition 28 convalescence centres, each with 250 beds, are to be established in various parts of the Iraqi Republic. They will all be supplied, with all health requirements which had been prepared, as from now. A central clinic is to be established in each village as well as a hospital of 150 beds in each Qadha. This will not make it necessary for patients in the provinces to come to the towns for medical treatment. Medical treatment will be in their village. The higher the level of knowledge and culture is in this country the greater are the prospects of eliminating diseases. Then it will be within our power to have a healthy and strong people. To the above mentioned hospitals will be attached mother and child care and maternity centres.

The number of students at the Medical College in Baghdad and the Medical College in Mosul has increased from 100 students to 400 students this year. Were it not for the large number of students sent to pursue their studies abroad, 600 students would have been admitted. This is the number envisaged for the future. The number of students attending courses for nurses has increased from 30 to 300. The number of medical dressers has increased from 30 to 300. We are endeavouring to raise the number of nurses and dressers to ensure proper medical treatment for the public. Some of these nurses and dressers come from the various parts of Iraq and some of them are receiving training in their own areas so as to join medical establishments in those areas in the future so as to ensure service for the sick and to make available the noble work, the sincere work for raising high the reputation of the country and for consolidating its entity. A large number of physicians have been sent abroad to specialise on various branches of medicine. They have been sent to countries in

the East and in the West as well as to neutral countries. Science does not have a specific homeland. Science is to be found everywhere. The number of patients receiving treatment at hospitals has increased many folds due to the availability of hospitals accommodations and facilities. The largest unit for operation theatres has now been established at the Republican Hospital. For five years this unit was not completed. It has now been completed under the Revolution. We have been able to provide all necessary equipment for these operation theatres which are among the most modern of their kind. They will soon be inaugurated and you will be able to see them. A blood bank has also been established complete with its accessories. This blood bank will be available to serve the people everywhere in Iraq, since reserve amounts of blood are sent to the various clinics to be given to any who is in need for blood. Convalescence houses will be established in various parts of Iraq. We have pledged ourselves to fight imperialism and to fight all factors contributing to ignorance, disease and impoverishment. We have therefore to accomplish as soon as possible these projects in addition to the ones that have already been accomplished. As I have told you we will hold the responsible authorities accountable for not spending allocated funds on such projects as quickly as possible so as to have these projects ready as early as possible. We will not ask them: Why were you slow in spending? We will not ask them: Why did you spend? Funds are available to us as long as sincerity, efforts and honest service are available. Without sincerity, without a sense of devotion and without genuine services, the riches of the country are squandered. But as long as there exist noble people and a conscious generation the country will soon prosper. Next generation will work for the generation following it and so on. We have been able to get rid of imperialism. We are now working for our own interests—for our people and for the next generations. We are working in the way of God and for the sake of the soil of this home-

land. We are working for the whole of the people without exception. We are working for the whole people, for the whole of the fraternal nationalities in Iraq—Arabs, Kurds, Turkmans and all minorities, men and women, aged and young. (clapping).

WATER AND ELECTRICITY IN REMOTE VILLAGES

"As to water and electricity projects in remote villages, these projects are now under way. Formerly useful projects were reserved for people nearer to the centre while remote areas remained neglected. Now useful projects are started both in the centre and in remote areas, with no discrimination. Services are rendered to all. (clapping).

"The Ministry of Social Affairs has undertaken electricity and water supply projects in the Nahiyas of Qaratu, Maidan, Jalawla and in Mundhiriyah village. Three drinking water projects have actually been started in the Nahiyas of Qaratu, Maidan and Kuljakhan. These projects will be opened this month. Six more water and electricity projects were started in Amarah Liwa and will be completed this month. We have seen to it that projects begin from frontier areas—in villages which have suffered bitterly from deprivation and destitution. Work is continuing on the two projects for water and electricity in Basrah Liwa. These will be completed later this month. Water and electricity projects have also been started in some villages in Diwaniyah Liwa and in the village of Nugrat As-Salman as well as in Safwan. These will be opened early in February of next year. An electricity project has also been started in Barazan village and will be opened before March. Preparatory studies are continuing for power and water projects in some villages of Mosul Liwa as well as for some villages in Ramadi Liwa. Some projects have

actually been established. Work is continuing on the water and electricity projects in Feshkhabur in Mosul Liwa. All these projects will be inaugurated well ahead of next July 14.

"Juvenile welfare centres are being built. Five centres are to be built in each of the liwas of Diwaniyah, Amarah, Ramadi, Karbala and Diyala. A house for juvenile institute has been opened in Baghdad in which the juveniles are gradually increasing. A social centre has also been established in Safwan. So you see we start from the frontiers inwards in Basrah Liwa. Another social centre is being established in Haditha, Ramadi Liwa. As to model villages, a modern agricultural village based on the foundation of self-sufficiency is being created in Mosul Liwa. It will be opened on July 14. This village will be in the vicinity of Tel Kocheh. It will be a modern village supplied with drinking water, electricity and all other amenities. It will be supplied too with clinics, hospitals, schools and other social services. (clapping).

AL-RASHID CITY

Preliminary studies are underway to create more villages this year. It is a pleasure to all, that we are planning to build what is going to be called the City of Rashad (Rehabilitation). Soon we will engage experts to lay down the designs for this village to which funds have already been reserved. Do you know from where we got this money? Al-Rashad city will be highly profitable to the people. The funds for this city will be from the people. I have caused souvenir coins to be issued in commemoration of last July 14. These souvenir coins will be offered to the public to be kept as souvenirs against relatively small prices. I have samples for these coins. Why are those coins made? We are going to build Al-Rashad city. (clapping).

"The National Government or the Ministry of Finance will also contribute with a large sum of money which is also the people's property. This city will be supplied with necessary amenities as well as with drinking water, electricity, social centres, schools, parks, playing grounds, small factories and a hospital. The factories will be on the models of the Martyrs' Factory and will be operated by the people of the city. Accruing revenues will be spent on maintaining some of the families in addition to the expenditures made by the Government on them. Preliminary designs for Al-Rashad city are now nearing completion. The city will be opened next July 14. We will surprise you by announcing its location. This city will accommodate most of the needy persons, vagabonds and every one else that stands in need of this city's services. Al-Rashid city is different from the city for disabled people. In this city all services will be offered including accommodation, clothing, vocational training, social education and technical and cultural education and special education as well as health services and everything required for their happiness. These services are intended to make the people of Al-Rashad city useful citizens, serving the homeland.

PRISONS

"We have also decided that prisons will be centres for the reform of prisoners. They will be centres for educating prisoners. The criminal is brought to the prison where he will be given every possible aid to reform his life on a scientific basis so that he can be delivered from his state of affairs as well as from his emotional and psychological conditions. By the time he leaves prison he will be transformed into a useful citizen. Prison is not found to be used for acts of cruelty and torture, but it is found to reform prisoners. In view of this, endeavours are under way to introduce reforms to all prisoners, to educate prisoners and to give them proper vocational training so that they be-

come good citizens. Leaflets will be distributed describing what should be the attitude of prison staffs towards prisoners. Modern prisons will soon be established containing all social and health requirements.

"As to the reformatory school, all measures have been taken to improve the school to ensure the welfare of the juvenile delinquents in it. The purpose of this is to make these delinquents useful citizens serving the immortal Republic along with the other people.

TOURISM AND SUMMER RESORTS ADMINISTRATION

"As concerns the projects of the Tourism and Summer Resorts Administration which is a subsidiary of the Ministry of Social Affairs, work is continuing on the modern project at Habbaniyah involving the building of 50 modern houses for holiday-makers along with swimming pools, restaurants, casinos and clubs. These will be opened next July 14. You can see the project now before it is completed. We are working like a beehive, all of us. We are all busy serving the homeland. Soon work will start on the building of rest houses in Anah, Ramadi Liwa; in Babylon, Hilla Liwa; in Salman Pak, Baghdad Liwa and in Haj Umran, Arbil Liwa. Forty five modern rest houses have already been built for holiday-makers in Arbil Liwa. Work is continuing, to build more of these houses in this liwa as well as in other northern liwas. Studies and work on various other projects are going ahead in full swing in all parts of the immortal Iraqi Republic. This Republic will be the Mecca of tourists and will earn vast incomes which will satisfy many needs of this country. There will be a surplus of this income, I reckon. As to houses for refugees, 165 have already been given to our brothers, the Palestinian refugees. The construction of another 20 houses has been started and will be completed next April. As to metalling streets, work has been started for the streets of Al-Hurriyah City. I hope this will be concluded early next

April. This is but a brief account of the projects that have been carried out by the Ministry of Social Affairs since July 14.

THE MINISTRY OF OIL

Now before I move on to the basic project, I wish to speak briefly of the Ministry of Oil and its accomplishments. Formerly spendings were made on matters which were not in the people's interests. We have been able to save no less than ID. 5 million from one establishment. The accomplishments by the Ministry of Oil included the cancellation of the concession of the Khanaqin Oil Company. That was a big deal from which Iraq has greatly benefited. The company is now run by Iraqis and is undisputed property of the Iraqis and the people. We have been able to redeem the concessions in the territorial waters. Territorial waters were included in the oil company's concession but we have been able to redeem that concession. Iraq can now prospect for oil in her territorial waters and engage any firm for this work, ensuring the general welfare and the sufficient revenue for our country. The oil-fields in Naft Khanah are now run by the Iraqi Government and Iraqi workers, and so are the Alwand Refinery in Khanaqin and the refinery in Basrah. We have been able to liquidate foreign technicians in the oil establishments. 157 foreign experts were costing the treasury ID. 1,150,000 yearly. Most of these were at the Dora Refinery. During this brief period we were able to replace these foreigners by Iraqis. The Ministry has got rid of those foreigners. We thank those experts for the services they had rendered to us in the past. They have departed as friends. We have directly undertaken the task of distributing oil products which made it possible to get rid of about 50 foreign technicians and engineers who were formerly working at the distribution administration which

was run by a foreign company. This offset the deficit which amounted to more than ID. 1,000,000 yearly. Can you estimate what profits we have now? On taking over the establishments after the Revolution we were able to offset the deficit and save ID. 1,250,000. This was achieved in the course of about one year after the Revolution. This saving is in addition to ID. 871,000 which was paid to the Central Bank in settlement of outstanding debts. We also paid ID. 1,800,000 to the Foster Wheeler firm in settlement of expenses for enlarging the refinery. Formerly the deficit was more than ID. 1,000,000, now the saving is equal to this, i.e., the real savings amount to more than ID. 5,000,000. That gives you an illustration of how public money was plundered in this country. We have made these savings from only one establishment. We save these funds for the homeland. Formerly foreign firms were coming to Iraq without bringing with them any capital whatsoever — not even a penny. Most of their work was done on the basis of credits, corruption, cheating, acts of plundering and connivance. Now foreign firms come to this liberated country on the basis of mutual profits, on the basis of right and social justice.

"As regards plans for the future, the Ministry of Oil is planning to operate the refineries to their full capacity. This will mean altering the present level of production amounting to 1,250,000 tons to a full capacity reaching more than 3 million tons of oil products and 25,000 tons of lubricating oils. This will involve studying prospects for exports.

"As to the plan concerning technical training, this has been based on the possibility of saving half the engineers currently working at the refineries. The more experience we have, the easier it will be for us to operate the plants with fewer people. This will make it possible for us to concentrate on producing other oil products such as wax, paraffin and other items. The production of liquid gas has

been expanded to ensure supplies for 50,000 families. A couple of days ago we announced reduction in prices of liquid gas from 100 fils to 50 fils per kilo to encourage purchases. A huge plant will be established to provide spare parts for Government and public establishments. This will make unnecessary the importation of such spare parts from abroad. We will also establish a project for distributing oil products to municipalities, agricultural and co-operative societies and other organisations.

"I will talk of exploiting the new oilfields redeemed by Iraq, I am disclosing no secret when I inform you that negotiations were going on with the oil companies on the basis that the oil companies enjoyed a concession to prospect for oil in all parts of Iraq from north to south and from east to west wherever they pleased. Protracted negotiations were carried out between us and the oil companies, on the basis that the oil companies must squeeze the areas of concession, turning back some areas to the people of the country. As a result of those negotiations, we were able to procure a decision on the companies' part to relinquish 90,000 square kilometres of their present concession's area. But we did not agree to this. We asked that the company should relinquish 60 per cent of the areas of the concession (clapping). We also want to have a common say with the company in selecting these areas. The company wanted to relinquish 90,000 square kilometres to Iraq on the condition that it would be left to the company to decide which areas were to be relinquished. What we wanted was that we should have a common say with the company on this and that 60 per cent of the areas of concession relinquished in the concession areas in Basrah, Kirkuk and Mosul be taken separately. We want the oil company to relinquish 60 per cent of each area and that both sides will together decide on the areas to be relinquished. This is the topic now discussed between ourselves and the oil company. Now we have at hand 90,

000 square kilometres. But we do not agree to this. This is because concessions were given to the company at a time when Iraq was fettered. Now we are free. (clapping). We are dealing with the company on the basis of mutual interests. We want more production and more oil exports. The company has honoured its promise and has increased production. On the other hand we want dealing between us to be based on the foundations of mutual profits so as to promote friendship in place of doubts and distrust, originating from not solving these issues on just and logical basis. We hope that this issue will soon be solved and will not be cause for complicating the situation between us. I have now a letter from the company which reached me while in hospital. I had set a deadline to the company to send a reply within 30 days of the negotiations which ended six days before the treacherous bullets were fired at me. I had told the company that they had the option to send me a reply within 30 days or else we would not be committed to the negotiations that were conducted between us. When I was injured on October 7, the company asked me to extend the deadline by seven more days. This was granted. I am now in receipt of the reply of the company containing what I have just informed you.

"We are endeavouring to preserve the rights of this country sincerely and faithfully. Those treacherous elements who are heedless of the country's interests are perpetrating mischief against us. I am always with the people and I will always endeavour to serve the people's interests. I stand with the people and we all are heading for victory (clapping). This defiance, this aggression against us and this mischief-making can only make us more determined to press on with our line — the healthy democratic line (clapping) ensuring the rights of the people and consolidating the structure of the country.

"We have other studies at hand concerning crude oil as well as the exploitation of oil for various industrial purposes. Plans will be laid down in agreement with world establishments in a manner conforming to public interest and ensuring abundant revenues to the country. As an example, we have sent large numbers of students to study abroad. We will be in possession of experts and technicians to run our factories and to administer our affairs without requiring help from outside. We depend on ourselves, our resources, our own thinking as well as on knowledge and learning which will flourish in our country. Thus for the Ministry of Oil.

THE MINISTRY OF AGRARIAN REFORM

"I am now going to talk about the accomplishments of the Ministry of Agrarian Reform. As regards the agricultural production's preservation, advances amounting to ID. 3 million have been made available to the peasants for this season. The Agricultural Bank Laws and the requirements of Agrarian Reform have been amended to the peasants' advantage. Some of the agricultural debts due on them have been deferred to a future date. As concerns emigration from rural areas this will be prevented unless by permission from the authority, as a result of lands distributed to peasants. I assure you that we will be able to reclaim another 13 million donums of saline and drainage lands. Science will make it possible for us to reclaim these lands. When that is completed, working hands will be lacking, and we shall have to rely on science and machinery. Lands will be given to farmers even in excess of their needs. This takes into consideration the fact that rural areas are prohibited zones to the groups obstructing the agrarian reform. The principle of small ownership has been instituted in order to confirm agricultural relations and preserve agricultural production. The temporary man-

agement of agrarian reform has been supplemented on the basis of direct leases to peasants actually planting the land. We have also made provisions for operating some of the pumping stations on behalf of their owners whose machines have been laid hands on, or who are incapable of operating these machines due to the fact that only a small part of land has been left for them.

"We have also amended laws to provide advances to the peasants working as tenants to landlords in the event of landlords being incapable to provide such advances. In addition to the peasants to whom lands were given, there are the small-land owners with 1,000 donums or less. We are helping these people and we have allocated ID. 500,000 as advances for them to be loaned to them by the Ministry of Agriculture. We are giving a helping hand to all this country's people without exception and without discrimination. No differentiation is observed between a small-holder, farmer, peasant, worker, Government official or scientist. No differentiation also exists between merchants, and national capitalists who use their capital to promote the national wealth of the country. We are endeavouring to provide help to all alike. We are fighting the reactionaries who are plotting against the security of our Republic, against our entity and against the gains of the Revolution.

"As regards the dredging of canals, which was forcibly done by the peasants in the past, now we have allocated ID. 100,000 to dredge these canals. Presently, peasants are responsible for dredging canals within the boundaries of their areas. The state is responsible for dredging the canals outside these boundaries. But there are canals which do not fall within these categories. We have therefore allocated additional funds to be used for paying wages to dredging such canals. These funds have this year totalled ID. 100,000.

"As concerns the appropriation of lands, the areas officially marked for appropriation amount to 5 million donums in addition to other areas which have been owned collectively. The areas that have been appropriated amount to approximately 2 million donums. As regards distribution, some 100,000 donums have been given in the preliminary stage. The distribution of these lands is in the process of completing all legal procedures.

"A plan has been laid down to appropriate all lands marked for appropriation but not yet taken over. This amounts to approximately 4 million donums. This plan will soon be put into effect.

"The former process of prompt appropriation will be transformed into legal acts of appropriation. This will involve approximately 585,000 donums. Appropriations will be concentrated on large estates. We have started finalising this process and distributing the lands to the peasants. Once the peasants are attached to the land, they will constitute a source of strength in defending the homeland. Once the peasant becomes attached to his land and to his crop, he will see in this a strong stimulus to defend the country. (clapping)

"Formerly, the peasants were engaged in rearing cattle and sheep, preferring this to cultivation. They allowed their cattle to roam about, destroying crops which did not belong to the peasants. Now the crops are the property of the peasants. The peasants have to look after their crops in the same way as they look after their cattle.

"Concerning distribution, the Ministry had laid down a two-stage plan to distribute lands to peasants. The first stage involves the distribution of about three quarters of a million donums, two thirds of which are requisitioned lands while the other third is of miri lands. These are to be given out to approximately 9,000 peasant families. It is hoped to conclude this in April 1960. The lands which will be distributed are spread over seven liwas of Iraq.

"The second stage involves the distribution of about one and a quarter million of requisitioned and miri land which will be distributed during the second half of next year. As to the system of temporary lease, the Ministry has formed about 100 contract committees to carry out this work. These leases will be made, pending the completion of legal formalities to give the lands to peasants on permanent basis. The reason for letting this land on temporary lease basis, is that it now belongs to the state. When the land is fully surveyed, it will be legally distributed to peasants. We have thus got rid of feudalism. Henceforth no feudalism exists in our country. All have become good citizens serving this homeland. All are brothers with mutual love and with solidarity both in prosperity and adversity. The state looks after all without exception. Every member of the people is committed to abide by the requirements of mutual amity, fraternity and unity. Disunity can only be useful to the imperialists, to the covetous, to the sources of mischief and to clowns. The committees formed to supervise distribution will be increased in the future so as to expedite this process.

"As to periodic surveys, we have laid down a plan to complete surveys of all arable lands in Iraq. Surveying experts are expected to arrive next week. This operation will involve about 180,000 square kilometres. Necessary funds have been allocated within the general plan spread over four years. For the first year ID. 1,500,000 have been allocated. Surveying operation is due to begin this week. Any project which we have planned is to be carried out definitely, if it is backed up by sincerity and ideas.

"As to Government farms, the Ministry of Agrarian Reform, in compliance with the agreement signed between us and the friendly countries, has started building five Government farms: for wheat, cotton, rice, beetroots and

medical herbs in co-operation with other ministries concerned. Detailed studies have already been submitted for the wheat, cotton and rice farms. These farms will be among the largest and most modern in the world. The wheat farm for instance will cost about ID. 1,000,000. Its area will be about 50,000 donums. It will be a model farm. The allocations made for it are quite sizeable but benefits accruing from it will be great. The profit which will be earned will be many times greater than the money spent. We have an example in China, where the donum there yields five times what the donum in Iraq does. This means that there exist technical ways and means which must be applied. This can only be done by creating experimental farms. The cotton farm is to be created over an area of 18,400 donums. Its costs have been estimated at ID. 1,100,000. We have asked the technicians to revise the plan with a view to reducing the costs and expanding the area to 40,000 donums. 18,000 donums are no good to us. It is true that we want an experimental station but we also want a crop so that the country can benefit. From the income of this farm we shall have an excess which will be added to the income of the state. As to the rice farm, this will be created over an area of 12,000 donums. The beetroot farm will have an area of 10,000 donums and the medical herbs farm will be a much smaller scale, approximately 800 donums. Within the next few days all studies will be completed concerning these farms. Necessary machineries will be imported to implement and maintain them. We will also establish stations to distribute tractors on hire basis. He who does not use machinery during harvesting will be delayed, and will not be able to replant his land at an early date. We have therefore decided that anyone should be able to hire a combine, harvester or a tractor. We will have four large stations for this purpose. All these stations will be supplied by repair and maintenance workshops. Imagine the facilities and help that will be

given to farmers by these stations. Anyone can go to these stations and ask for a tractor, or a harvester against a fixed sum, which is not to be a profit. This is for long term planning. As to expanding the system, the Ministry's cadre and budget, this has been started gradually taking into account the point of view of economy. The more funds we have the more will be the spendings. We know the weak points, so we spend the money available on rectifying shortcomings. Getting rid of weakness will be given priority in our calculations. Our purpose is to create security and prosperity in the country, encourage the sense of self-reliance as well as the sense of responsibility and the feeling that every member of the people loves and cares for all the people. All the people will feel their responsibility to defend this structure against any aggressor and any imperialist. (clapping).

"There are other matters which I will, nevertheless outline briefly to you. The new cadre of the agrarian reform comprises approximately 1,500 officials on the permanent cadre, in addition to 1,100 employees, 20 experts and 500 workers. The number of appropriation committees have now reached 34. 24 committees have been formed to carry out the distribution plan. Approximately 100 contracting committees have been formed to expedite contracts by which lands are leased out to peasants and by which agricultural machineries are made available to the peasants. About 100 committees have been formed to finalise the leasing out of lands to peasants. Tens of surveying teams have also been formed to carry out various assignments of agrarian reform. In addition, 15 crop estimating committees have been formed. Under the new law 18 appeal tribunals have been formed for agrarian reform. These tribunals deal exclusively with cases arising from the implementation of the Agrarian Reform Law. The tribunals were created to expedite issuing verdicts on such cases and to relieve the ordinary courts. I signed the law for

this two days ago, I believe. Further, tens of committees to give advances to peasants have been formed all over Iraq."

After a short rest suggested by the Minister of Guidance, the leader resumed the conference by saying, "I work day and night for you. (clapping). I now propose to discuss some of the projects for various ministries before coming to the Ministry of Planning.

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

"As to the affairs of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Municipalities we will survey these as quickly as possible so as to give you time to look after the affairs of your newspapers as early as possible today. The projects sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture ranged widely. They include major irrigation projects. Studies and research concerning these projects are underway. Some of the designs and specifications are ready for announcement. They concern projects to improve irrigation and drainage and to build regulators in various parts of the country. I shall go hastily over these projects now as they will be dealt with more fully in the four-year plan. We are now thinking of this right from now. The designs are ready and we are contemplating the allocations to be made for it. Among the projects in question is the dam upstream on the Euphrates and the corresponding one on the Tigris, Fatha, Mosul and the project between Kirkuk and Udhaim including the Dibis Barrage and the reservoir in central Diyala. They also include improving irrigation in Diyala as well as drainage and irrigation in the central Tigris, and Al-Dammaj, in the present Gharraf Scheme and the expanded Gharraf Project which will soon be carried out. They include too improving irrigation, drainage and navigation in Amarah Liwa in addition to improving the drainage

system in the central and southern parts of Iraq, and the field drainage. Each of the directorates of the Ministry of Agriculture is assigned to specific duties. The Directorate of Research and Agricultural Projects for instance has approximately eight projects at hand. Some of these will be ready for implementation while the rest will be implemented after the four-year plan. Details about these projects will be communicated to you. Likewise the Directorate General of Animal Wealth and Veterinary has its own duties. These are connected with fighting animal diseases, with building slaughter houses and with other matters related to protecting animal wealth and benefiting from the soil also. As concerns the Directorate General of Forestry and Afforestation, we have plans to afforest the Northern, Central and Southern Liwas and to set up wind breakers. We have also ready plans some of which have been completed and others which are still under study, and which will soon be announced. We do not announce before we begin. As to the project of the dairy service, a part of this project is already functioning while, machinery, equipment and premises for the other part will soon be completed. This project will mean considerable savings for us. As regards the Directorate General of Irrigation, there is presently a list containing some 32 projects to be studied. These include the Tharthar Depression, the Eski Mosul Dam, Al-Fatha Dam, the Higher Euphrates Dam, the Dokan Dam, the Tharthar Project, the Kirkuk Project, the Ishaki Project, the Nahrawan Project, the Derbendi Khan Reservoir, the Lower Diyala Project, the Central Tigris Project, the Gharraf Project and the Dujaila Drainage System, the drainage systems of Dora, Shatra, Habbaniyah, Hor Abu Dibis, Saqlawiyah, Abu Ghraib and Greater Mussayeb. Other projects include developing Shat Al-Hillah, Al-Rumaiha and Al-Husseiniyah drainages as well as the Shamaiyah drainages and the Euphrates regulators and drainage. Also general investigations for drainage and soil and hydraulic surveys were conducted. Underway

now are the designs for water supply projects and other development projects for Amarah. There are projects which will be ready after completing the subsidiary projects, complementing them. The exterminated regime was carrying out projects which by themselves were not profitable. For instance the Derbendi Khan Project is useless without the projects complementing it. We have started these complementary projects right from now to make use of these waters for Diyala river and the other areas. The purpose of these projects is to reclaim large areas of lands. We aim at getting rid of Al-Ahwar area of the swamps area and of the saline lands. There was a time in the past history of Iraq when all the waters of Diyala were fully exploited. **Hardly any waters from Diyala River reached the Tigris. These waters always found their way to irrigation canals or to the drainage canals.** And we know how to use this drainage. The Ministry of Agriculture is also creating Government experimental farms which are run in co-operation with the agrarian reform authorities. The Ministry of Agriculture is also running wheat, beetroots, rice and cotton farms. All the projects of the Ministry of Agriculture involve approximately ID. 287 million. Not all these projects are included in the four-year plan. Only the most important ones have been included in the four-year year plan, which we will mention when we discuss the planning project of the Ministry of Planning.

THE MINISTRY OF MUNICIPALITIES

"As to the Ministry of Municipalities, this Ministry is engaged in improving the urban districts in Baghdad and elsewhere. It is engaged in arranging the distribution of high tension electricity supplies from the envisaged power stations in the central, northern and southern areas. This Ministry is working at full power to get these projects implemented. The Ministry's cadre has been built on sound

foundations. Each official has a duty to carry out. This duty is executed in conformity with the people's interest. We have created a common idea among the people to co-operate with the Government authorities in every liwa and qadha, so as to get their affairs done. The day will come when citizens will no longer have mayors appointed for them. This cannot be done. For the time being, we might help some of the areas where adequate experience is lacking. **But we will never go back to the past and impose appointed mayors on the people.** The people know better who can make good mayors. The General Council of Administration and municipal councils can agree among themselves in matters profitable to the people. It is the people who work.

"The above is a brief resume of projects concerning various ministries.

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

"As regards the Ministry of Defence, you know that we are seeking strength to defend the homeland. **This Army is serving the whole people without exception. The Army is pledged to defend the immortal Iraqi Republic.** We have supplied the Army with the most modern weapons and equipment. This makes it possible for us to defend all parts of Iraq on land, sea and air. (clapping). When I say on land, sea and air I mean precisely what I say. We are now strong enough to defend all our areas whether in land, sea or air. (clapping). The Army has been equipped in a modern manner. All officers, NCOs and men are now engaged in continuous training all over Iraq. We are strong enough in number and equipment to safeguard our country. We have strong faith in this. The Army at present serves the whole people. The Army is now merging with the people. The Army now provides the foundations to defend the

people's interests when these interests are menaced either from within and from without. (clapping).

"In addition to the above, we have seen to it that the Army must depend on defence industrialisation. We have therefore **started laying the foundations for this.** Preliminary equipment and machineries have already arrived for building the defence industry, necessary for defending the country. Soon steel factories will function which will be supplementary to the army factories. It will be possible for us to supply the neighbouring countries and other countries that **stand in need of weapons and equipment,** provided such countries need such supplies and deserve them. None of this will ever be used for committing aggression. Ours is a peaceful and a neutral country that does not launch an aggression against any, nor does it accept any aggression or intervention in its affairs. (clapping). The same applies to the police force. The former principles on which **the police force was founded** have now been altered. The police force is now a part of the armed forces. This applies to the police force and to the mobile force. We have started altering the police force's appearance so that the people become familiar with the new form. We have even changed the uniform of policemen. The policeman is now as popular with the people as the soldier. As time goes by the merger will proceed between the armed forces, the police force and the people, because they are all working for the country's common interest. Designs have been laid down to develop the police force on modern scientific bases. The police force is now equipped with up-to-date requirements and means of communications. In the event of necessity, the police force can enlist the help of equipments available to the Army. The police force is now based on science and culture. Culture is disseminated in schools and training courses. Modern camps are also to be prepared for the police force supplied with up-to-date short and distant means of communications. Right from now or from

July 14, the police force has become an organisation to serve the people. (clapping). The police system includes an emergency force which has been created to provide protection for the people and to strike at or check any elements plotting against the security of the country. There are also the police organisations for detection and intelligence. Their assignment is to detect criminals. I am certain that the crime rate in the country will gradually dwindle until it eventually disappears.

"In pursuance of disseminating culture among members of the police force, 313 cadets have now joined the Police College to qualify for police officers; 131 other cadets have joined the Police Preparatory School and will graduate as police N.C.O's. Seventy N.C.O's have joined the ordinary police officers' course and will graduate as officers nine months from now. Forty more junior N.C.O's and 51 senior N.C.O's are joining other courses. Temporary educational courses have been started for all officials of police schools and directorates. Some police officers and N.C.O's have taken part in a number of Army courses. We are amalgamating them with army officers to train on modern weapons and to improve their capabilities and technique. Seventy-five cadets have been admitted to the Military College at the expense of the police force. Incidentally one of them, Sayid Wajih, is a traitor now in Syria. He studied at the expense of the Army. He had betrayed the army and betrayed the interest of the Iraqi Republic. After having been immersed in treason at the time of the exterminated regime, that did not satisfy him and he wanted to plunge more in treason and disgrace under the present regime. As to missions sent abroad, many police officers have been sent to various parts of the world. They have been sent to America, Britain and other countries. We approved sending them abroad to acquire more experience which they will use to serve their country during their service in the police organisation.

"As to police arms and equipment it is sufficient to inform you that we have supplied the police force with modern weapons ensuring the defence of the country's security and giving protection to the people in case of an aggression launched against them. The situation is now reversed and no longer does the police force commit aggression against the people. The police and the armed forces have merged with their brethren in the army to serve the people. Formerly, members of the police force were not really against the people's interest but they were driven in that direction. The situation has now changed. They are all serving the people. There may exist among them some misled individuals. Those, however, will come back to their reason and will be unmasked in due time. What I want to assure you is that the police force now serves the whole people. As a result of training courses, lectures and guidance, members of the police force will proceed on the road of justice and right in a manner upholding the supremacy of law as well as complete impartiality. One of the organisations of the police force is the mobile police force which patrols rivers. We have supplied this force with motor boats and barges so as to enable the force to patrol rivers and marshes. As to weapons and wireless communication means, these have been made fully available, and are of the same types as those used by the army. It is also worthwhile to make some mention of buildings made for the police force. 39 police posts have been built and another 24 are under construction, in addition to 64 more police posts which have been announced for tender. Another 100 will be announced later. All these will be completed within two years. The larger part of the mobile force camps is now completed. Formalities are now proceeding to complete desert establishments.

"The Karkh police building is now nearing completion. The police hospital and the Directorate of the Abbakhana

Police are now being designed and are due to be completed within two years. Funds allocated for these buildings are ready.

"As to other police building projects, including premises for police directorates and reserve battalions in the provinces, these have been included in the next planning programme, naturally in conjunction with the Development Plan. Police uniforms have been changed and soon the uniform of members of the mobile force will also be changed. There remain however some old stock of police uniforms. These had been bought by funds supplied by the toil of workers, peasants, officials, merchants and other countrymen. My view was that these stocks must be used up before new uniforms are bought.

THE DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL DEFENCE

"Another establishment of ours is the Directorate General of Civil Defence. When the army is busy outside, this organisation will defend the inside. The Civil Defence organisation was formerly neglected. Now we have made it an effective organisation. The first batch of guides will graduate early next year after completing their present course. As I told you, all ministries, directorates and establishments are working like a beehive. Civil defence courses will admit volunteers from various Liwas so that civil defence branches will eventually be started in other major towns of Iraq. Two days ago equipment for the civil defence organisation arrived in Basrah. This is good news to the people. Some topics are now under discussion between me and the Director of Civil Defence. We are going to summon him to study the pamphlets containing these topics. In this way we will lay down a new plan to be employed by the public, by the military and by the executive authorities. Any one who is incapable of carrying arms

can help in some other way either in the field of administration or in the field of supply. All countrymen will fight to defend the structure of this Republic. Any one who can carry arms will do so when the moment of danger comes. Anyone who cannot carry arms will be called upon to help the armed forces in some other way—in the field of supplies and administration.

"When the hour of danger comes, all of us will come forward to defend the country. The Directorate General of Police and Civil Defence are related to the Ministry of Interior.

THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

"In connection with the Ministry of Interior. I wish to inform you that this year we have created six new qadhas. Formerly, members of the public were travelling from one area to another to follow up their formalities. It was also brought to my notice that, in some areas, the director of nahiyah resides some 30 kilometres away from the people of his area who have to make the journey to his place to get their affairs settled.

"We have now formed several qadhas and nahiyas. If it is found necessary, more nahiyas and qadhas will be promptly created. Among the qadhas created were the Salman Qadha in Diwaniyah Liwa, Rutbah Qadha in Ramdi Liwa, the Benjwin Qadha, in Sulaimaniyah, and Kut Qadha in Kut Liwa. As you know Kut has a large area with vast areas of cultivated lands, farms and frontier areas. That district was formerly neglected. We have thus created a centre for the Qadha of Kut. We have also created the Algeria Qadha (clapping), a piece of good news for you. This is a qadha which has been well named. It is meant to demonstrate our encouragement to our brethren in Alge-

ria. This was formerly called the area of Al-Chiba'ish which has a topography suggestive of the name it has now been given, namely Algeria (islands). That area is an area of waters and islands. We have also created the Qadha of Hadhar in Mosul Liwa. As you know Al-Hadhar (Hatra), is an area of historic importance. Many tourists go to that area. It was in order to ensure comfortable accommodation in that area that Al-Hadhar Qadha was created. Thus new qadhas were created in the liwas of Diwaniyah, Ramadi, Sulaimaniyah, Kut, Nassiriyah and Mosul.

"As to the nahiyahs we have created the nahiya of Shabaka in Diwaniyah Liwa, the nahiyah of Basir in Diwaniyah Liwa too, the nahiyah of Rutbah in Ramadi Liwa, The nahiyah of Sarchinar in Sulaimaniyah Liwa, the nahiyah of Ali al-Sharqi in Amarah Liwa, the nahiyah of Tel in Mosul Liwa, and the nahiyah of Ba'aj in Mosul Liwa.

"As to the laws that have been promulgated under the Republican regime, there is, as far as the Ministry of Interior is concerned, the amendment to the Land Transport Means Law, the Passport Law No. 39 for 1959, the Public Assemblage and Demonstrations Law, the amended Law for the Martial Administration Decree, the Police Service Law, the amended Law for the Administration of Liwas No. 36, the Refugees Law No. 114, which is designed for preserving the rights and for the protection of refugees, the regulation of the Ministry of Interior, the regulation of the Passport System, the amended Census Law, the High Police Board Law and the system of the Preparatory School for N.C.O's.

"A large number of governmental buildings has been completed, and many houses are built for administrative officials. Designs have been laid down for 116 halls for Government departments together with 600 houses for junior Government officials and 125 houses of a larger size.

Local administrations have accomplished the building of 35 schools, seven clinics, two veterinary clinics, 28 houses, ten roads, seven bridges, two factories and one hall. Other projects are now under construction in addition to many projects which are near completion. These projects are over and above the five-year plan laid down in the programme of the Ministry of Planning.

THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING

"Now I am going to speak briefly about the Ministry of Planning.

"We have now laid down an economic plan by which we were able to overcome chaos in projects — a chaos bequeathed by the former Development Board when public funds were squandered most recklessly and without any deterrent to prevent squandering the wealth of the people. We have now started completing all projects started at the time of the exterminated regime. Most of these have been accomplished. At the time of the exterminated regime it was always announced that projects were going to be completed too but they always got delayed. There was for instance the Dokan Dam project. That project was carried out at a site where a whole mountainous area was shifted from its place. At that time the Ministry decided to engage some experts. We recommended at that time to engage experts from India and Switzerland. We engaged three world renowned experts to study this project and to submit their report concerning its progress. As a result, we were able to secure an appreciable saving in money. The Swiss expert received some small payment, the Indian experts informed us that they had been delegated by the Government of India to co-operate with Iraq, they were therefore doing this job for no fees. We thanked them for that co-operation and we presented them with token gifts as souvenirs. We went ahead with

the Dokan project. As you know the project has now been completed and only some parts are left to be done. The dam already contains water. The Derbendi Khan Reservoir will also be soon accomplished along with other projects. What I meant to mention here is that we have started completing the projects of the exterminated regime and started at the same time, the complementary subsidiary projects so as to ensure benefits from the main projects. A project such as this would remain useless unless the other complementary plans are put into practice. The Ministry of Planning will issue explanatory plans which will be announced to the public and visitors too so that the people become assured about this country's prosperous future. Such explanatory plans will disclose the amount of revenues that will accrue to the country as a result of these projects and will explain the magnitude of their contribution to national economy. In the course of planning these projects, we helped the private sector by arranging for private investments to be made in some projects. After the State's completion of such projects the public will be invited to invest so as to make it easier for the people to take part in these projects. We have laid down solid foundations for the future economic plan which will provide the truest reflection of the spirit of the July 14 Revolution. This plan will be from the people, by the people and for the people. It will be one of the fruits of the July 14 Revolution. We have adequate resources to carry out the entire plan.

"In future, other resources will be found for whatever new projects are deemed necessary. These additional resources will be drawn from the state's reserve funds. Should there be any need for more projects, we will be able to cover these by raising internal loans contributed by the people. Surplus wealths will be invested in development projects contributing to the promotion of the country's economies such as constructional, economic and agricultural schemes. Soon studies will begin in connection with the

Fatha Reservoir, and the Upper Euphrates Dam. Studies will soon be completed for the Eski Kelak Dam in Mosul. All constructional establishments at the Dokan Dam and at the Derbendi Khan Reservoir will be completed. The Dibis Dam will be built on the Lower Zab. The following regulators have been built: four regulators on Gharraf to regulate flow irrigation in the Gharraf area amounting to 3 million donums, two regulators on the Euphrates, and the expansion of the major regulator to increase the capacity of Habbaniyah Lake. We have brought experts and technicians and it was agreed to raise the dam's level. This has ensured a vast profit. The costs will be relatively small but the profits will be enormous, and Al-Meshkhab Regulator to regulate irrigation in the Shamiya and Meshkhab areas will be completed. As concerns irrigation, the Eski Kelak project will be completed to reclaim 100,000 donums. Plans will be made for the Kirkuk project to irrigate 1,500,000 donums of the Udhaim project. Steps will also be taken to organise irrigation in the areas of Hilla, Amarah, Diwaniyah and Gharraf. Irrigation waters will be secured for the areas of Khanaqin and Mandali. This means that vast areas of lands will be made available for cultivation. Consequently there will be a tremendous demand on manual labour. It will thus be necessary to seek the help of machines and science in various parts of Iraq. In the course of the plan, the drainage system will be created for more than 1,200,000 donums in Dujaila, Shatrah, Diyala and Hilla. Pumping stations will be installed to pump drainage waters in various parts of Iraq. You will have figures about these projects later. I am now only outlining the projects for you briefly. In the course of this plan, an air survey unit will be established. An area of 180,000 square kilometres will be surveyed for horticultural wealth. A wide range of Iraqi plants will be classified and a botanical museum and a botanical encyclopedia for Iraqi plants will be prepared. A botanical garden will also be established.

"As to the zoological gardens and to the experimental farming stations, I wanted originally to have these gardens to be in line with what exists in more developed states, such as Kew Gardens and Botany Gardens. It was proposed to have these on the island opposite to Jadriyah so as to make it a subsidiary to the University. We later decided that the public must see a collection of good parks, a zoo and permanent fair in one area. We have therefore decided to make the permanent fairs and the zoo in the island. This decision might be revised in the future, but one can say that there is a 75% chance that it will be upheld. This island will be connected to the mainland by two bridges. There will be adequate parking areas. Visitors will walk across the bridge to the island. The maintenance of the area and the experimental station will be the responsibility of the university. The island will receive traffic coming from Hilla, from the airport and Al-Jumhuriyah Bridge. It will also receive traffic from Karradah and from the area of Rashid Camp. Briefly, the area will be one of the loveliest spots in Baghdad. The people of Baghdad and the people of Iraq will enjoy the fruits of the July 14 Revolution. There will be spacious parks where children can play and there will be modern seating facilities. All this will reflect strength, science, good taste, wealth and advancement. It will reflect a civilized people relying on themselves in both prosperity and adversity.

"As to the projects concerning agricultural wealth, I have outlined to you the plans regarding the creation of a botanical museum, an agricultural experimental station and afforesting approximately 4,000 donums of land. 17,000 donums of lands formerly afforested will now be improved all over Iraq. 15,000 nut-bearing trees will be grown in the area of Mosul so as to bring prosperity to the people of Mosul and the people of Iraq. Measures will be taken to improve rice cultivation in Iraq. An agricultural quarantine will be established in Khanaqin to prevent the infiltration of agricultural diseases.

es to Iraq and to prevent the pollution of the agricultural crop. Groups will be formed to disseminate guidance among the people engaged in cultivation.

"As to animal wealth, four experimental stations will be created in connection with animal husbandry. The campaign against animal diseases will look after 8,000,000 heads of sheep and cattle. Formerly animal diseases were playing havoc with live-stock without any effective treatment being made. Earlier at this conference I told you how this could contribute to raising prices. The veterinary laboratory in Abu Ghraib will be completed. Two veterinary hospitals will be established, one in Mosul and the other in Baghdad. A modern slaughter house will be established, complete with up-to-date slaughter equipment. This will be a central slaughter house, replacing all present slaughter houses. The central dairy plant will produce 40,000 litres of pasteurised milk per day together with 700 kgs. of butter, 5,000 kgs. of sour milk and 500 tons of cheese annually, in addition to unspecified quantities of cream.

"Our resources will increase as time goes by. We will have more resources from agriculture, industry and mineral wealth, which we shall extract and exploit. As regards soil, surveys are going on to classify the arable lands in accordance with their crops. These surveys are going on at the rate of 1,500,000 donums per year. Saline land is being reclaimed at the Dujaila project covering an area of more than 30,000 donums. This is only a pilot project, and the results obtained from it will help in reclaiming other large areas. It has been said that Iraq was capable of maintaining a population of 30 million. It is true that Iraq will be able to maintain a population of 30 million people after the completion of the four-year project.

"As to artesian wells, more than 600 of them will be drilled in the course of this plan in various parts of Iraq. We have already started boring many such wells in various parts of the country. As concerns the project of the industrial department, we have at hand various electricity

projects. These projects involve an output of 197,250 kw. It should be recalled here that the Sarrafiyah power station in Baghdad has an output of 55,000 kw. There are 1,240 kilometres of high tension cables. This includes the network of the high tension cables connecting the main power stations in Dibis and Baghdad. Low tension cables are 389 kilometres long, and include new installations in cities, villages, and within the boundaries of municipalities. These electricity supplies will be made available to 103 towns and villages as well as to industrial projects and irrigation and drainage pumping stations in their areas.

"As regards the industrial projects, these include 40 schemes and factories involving heavy industries such as steel, paper and fertilisers as well as light industries.

"As regards railways, 96 kilometres of metre-gauge railway lines and 600 kilometres of wide gauge lines will be laid. Designs will be completed for new lines, in addition to 120 kilometres of metre-gauge and 600 kilometres of wide gauge lines. A main railway terminal will be built in Risafa. Thirty medium railway stations will also be built in various parts of Iraq.

"As to civil aviation, an international first class airport will be constructed in Baghdad. It will be equipped with up-to-date equipment to receive a large volume of air traffic. Another modern airport will be built in Mosul. The new airport will be near the areas of Kasr Al-Milh and Al-Khasb, and will include the existing military airport. Internal air services will be expanded by purchasing new planes for both the internal and external air services. We are now considering which of the offers made to us are the most favourable.

"As concerns the posts, telegraphs and telephones, 21 new additional telephone lines will be made available to subscribers during the current plan. With regard to long distance telephone calls, the plan provides for expanding the carrier wave system to increase the volume of telephone calls from Baghdad to

Basrah and Mosul. This volume will be increased 12 fold. It will also be thus possible to increase the volume of telephone calls between Baghdad and Teheran 3 fold, and so will telephone calls between Basrah-Kharmshahar and Kut-Amara. The direct radio-telephone communications will also be expanded between Iraq and various parts of the world. The use of teleprinter machines will also be expanded.

"As to roads, 1,800 kilometres of main roads will be concreted and metalled. Another 2,000 kilometres of roads will be improved to become fit for all weathers. The countries with little roads are backward countries. It is on the means of communications that the country's prosperity depends. It is on the means of communications that the dissemination of cultural knowledge also depends. As regards bridges, eight bridges will be built on the Tigris, Euphrates and other major rivers. Five more main bridges will be designed. Twenty-five medium bridges will be built on tributaries and canals. This is in addition to five floating bridges to be built on the Tigris and Euphrates along with five ferries. As concerns radio and TV, the services of the broadcasting and TV stations will be expanded so as to bring the total broadcasting time to 156 hours per day in 14 languages. Designs for this expansion are ready. I will call the responsible men to account in the event of any delay in carrying out the plan. I have made available the necessary funds. It is left to them to engage any world engineer or expert or local expert. We must get this done as early as we can so as to keep pace with the free and liberater world.

"The age of tyranny is gone. It is the people of the country who are in control of their own resources. Public funds are spent for the benefit of the people. We want to do more work so as to avoid being blamed by the coming generation. TV programmes will reach more than 70 per

cent of Iraq's population. TV transmitters from 15 to 50 kw. power will be installed together with TV centres in each of Amarah, Diwaniyah, Kirkuk, Basrah and Mosul. It will thus be possible to bring TV to the friendly country of Kuwait. A medium wave transmitter of 300 kw. power will be installed at Salman Pak along with six short wave transmitters, each 100 kw. strong at Abu Ghraib and Salman Pak. A medium wave transmitter of 150 kw. will be installed in each of Kirkuk and Basrah.

"As to ports, Basrah Port will be enlarged. Steps will be taken to build a new port at Um al-Qasir as part of the general plan. Studies will be made to improve river navigation in the Tigris and Euphrates.

"As to the projects of the Department of Housing and Summer Resorts, there are 60 projects for the construction of 36,500 houses; 4,500 arsas will be prepared as building sites by laying down water pipelines and organising sewerage systems. This is intended to provide accommodation to sarifa dwellers, to Government officials and employees, to Army men and to all who need houses. This is in addition to the housing projects that are now under way. Sometime ago more than 5,000 houses were delivered. Tomorrow 350 houses will be delivered to some Army men.

"As to the social affairs' projects, these include the creation of nine model villages as well as two new villages in some remote areas of the country. The projects also include the creation of mobile social units, public baths and social centres. They also include building new summer resorts, rest houses, swimming pools and hotels, all of which are almost non-existent. In four years, we will have rendered immense services to the people. These services will be financed by the people's funds. We, the countrymen, by our efforts, sincerity, devotion and co-operation, constitute a solid front working for the sake of the homeland. This

solid front will be incapable of being penetrated by the enemy and greedy people who have designs to eliminate the prosperity now within the people's reach.

"As to the municipality projects, these include the building of roads as well as water supply and sewerage projects and air surveys of all towns including centres for liwas, qadhas and nahiyas. There are also plans to train surveyors, to beautify towns, and eliminate swamps. The projects of the Directorate General of Buildings include the construction of the Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs building in the civic centre. Plans will be laid down for all buildings of the civic centre which include 14 modern buildings. In addition, the building of the Board of Planning, and the new National Assembly, which will serve the people's interests, determine the people's destinies and carry out the will of the people, will be completed. The present Republican Palace will be completed. This is the one that used to be known as the Royal Bilat. This is a name that has now been buried. The Palace is now the property of the people, the wealth of the people has now been returned to the people. Designs will also be laid down for the building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. New government premises will be established at liwa centres, qadhas and nahiyas all over Iraq. Fourteen premises for law courts will be built at centres of liwas and qadhas. Seventeen customs and excise posts will also be built along with customs storage houses in Rutbah, Karkh and Risafa. A central prison will be established at Abu Ghraib along with two other prisons one in each of Kirkuk and Sulaimaniyah. These will be built on modern scientific bases. Prisons will be used to reform prisoners and not to use cruelty.

"Other plans include the building of police schools, barracks for the mobile force as well as 190 police posts in various parts of Iraq. Sixty-four houses will also be built for Government officials including engineers, physicians,

judges and qaimaqams. Three buildings will be constructed for three Iraqi embassies, namely the embassies in Beirut, New Delhi and Rabat along with three residences for the ambassadors. In the event of finding three ready buildings, these might be bought by the Foreign Ministry. Three Government buildings will be constructed for the building Directorates in Mosul, Sulaimaniyah and Amarah. Premises will also be built for the Ministry of Works and Housing as well as for the Directorate General of Buildings.

"As to the projects sponsored by the health authorities, these include the building of the Medical City with its numerous branches along with five large hospitals one in each of Karkh, Kadhimain, Mosul, Amarah and Basrah. Eleven new hospitals will be built in various parts of Iraq. Twelve more hospitals, already initiated in various parts of Iraq will be completed. There are also plans to build 13 medicine stores, five convalescent houses and 13 children's welfare centres as well as laboratories for the Mosul Medical College. 23 other clinics will be built in various parts of Iraq.

"As to the projects sponsored by the Cultural Department, these include the new building for the Baghdad University as well as the construction of annexes to the Colleges of Science, Agriculture, Education, Medicine, Engineering and Law. The students' hostel will be completed along with the Higher Institute of Physical Education. The students' hostel will be provided with furniture, and books will be bought for the University library. Laboratory equipment will be bought for the University.

"The Scouts' Ground will be expanded to provide more seating facilities for spectators. Five large buildings will be constructed for the Fine Arts, the Baghdad Stadium, the audio-visual aid centre, the Iraqi Academy and the

Sports Federation. The swimming pools for cultural units in Mosul, Kirkuk and Basrah will be completed. 32 intermediate schools will be built along with a house for teachers. In addition to industrial schools and boarding sections in various parts of Iraq, ten secondary schools in various parts of Iraq will be expanded along with eight agricultural schools. 213 elementary schools will be built in various parts of the country. As to antiquities in Iraq, these were neglected. We have plans to devote full attention to Iraqi antiquities, depicting Iraq's past and present civilizations as well as Iraq's freedom, straightforwardness, justice and sovereignty in present times. We are going to preserve these antiquities and make them the Mecca of tourists from all over the world.

"In the course of four years, the projects sponsored by the Agricultural Department will amount to ID. 47,148,791. Allocations for the Industrial Department are ID. 38,289,500; for Communications ID. 100,831,530, for Housing and Summer Resorts ID. 7,641,200; for the Directorate General of Buildings ID. 50,484,050; for public health ID. 24,595,000 and for general culture ID. 39,048,100. ID. 10 million will be spent on projects provided for by agreements. We have reserves over and above these allocations. These allocations are also over and above the allocations made for the industrial defence programme. The four-year plan will exceed ID. 400 million.

"This is a brief account of the projects which will ensure prosperity for Iraq. Iraq will indeed be a paradise of Eden. We have to defend this country's structure and exploit its resources. Four years period is not a too distant future. We have other complementary projects which we are preparing right from now. My stay in hospital was for the people's good. (clapping). I wasted no time and I used every minute to work in the way of God and for the people's sake. In this, we are paying some of the debts due on

us. Our forefathers are buried under this soil. This soil is our property and the property of future generations. We will defend this soil and we will do our best to develop this country. The Almighty will grant us success. We have to be armed with determination, faith, resolution and sincerity. We have to fight the reactionaries who plot against the security of the immortal Iraqi Republic. Life is not measured by years which one lives, it is measured by the sincere work one does for one's people. (clapping and cheering).

"With respect to the incidents that took place in Kirkuk, I have consulted with the committee that was raising funds. It has been agreed to pay ID. 1,000 to the family of each martyr over 18 years old and ID. 700 to each martyr below that age. Injured persons will receive indemnities in proportion to the injuries they suffered. These will range from ID. 100 to 250. Persons who were injured but not incapacitated will receive ID. 50 for every month or fractions of a month they stayed in hospital. As to the persons who suffered material losses, these losses will be fully compensated if they are below ID. 100. For losses between ID. 100 and ID. 200, a compensation of ID. 100 will be paid. For losses ranging from ID. 200 to ID. 3,000, 50 per cent of the compensations will be made. A person who suffered material losses amounting to ID. 3,000 will thus be compensated with ID. 1,500. A person who suffered material losses amounting to ID. 2,000 will receive compensations amounting to ID. 1,000. Those who suffered material losses exceeding ID. 3,000 will nevertheless be treated as those who suffered losses of ID. 3,000. We made ID. 3,000 as the maximum, and that is fair. It is likely that the same family will also include an injured person or a person who was confined to hospital. I have now completed and accurate statistics. These statistics were obtained after the injured have recovered, and after disturbances have disappeared.

These are different from the photographs sent at the time of the incidents. There were cases when two photographs were taken of the same person from two different angles. It was then counted that two persons were involved whereas only one person was actually involved. According to the statistics, the number of the dead in Kirkuk was 31. The others have recovered from their injuries and are now enjoying ease of mind and security.

"We will protect all the people without discrimination. We have to fight the agents and reactionaries whom I have defined for you. The reactionaries are those who are plotting against the immortal Iraqi Republic's security. I call upon all countrymen, my brothers the students, my brothers the educated and upon all other fellow countrymen—workers, farmers, peasants, Government officials, merchants and industrialists to be vigilant and inform about every plotter so that the law can take its course and so that these plotters can be brought to account for what they perpetrated against the people. (clapping).

"As regards the honourable ulema, the ulema and men of religion are all righteous apart from a handful of them, who were deluded by imperialism and the covetous and tempted by earthly ambitions to create disunity and cause harm to this country. Apart from these, the ulema, and I especially mention the people of the holy Najaf, (clapping) have fought imperialism for long. These ulema continue to fight imperialism and struggle in the way of God and for the sake of the people. They are with us. They are people of chivalry. So are all ulema all over Iraq apart from this small group which is intransigent and which is driven by imperialism. We have to fight these and check them. Anyone who comes up against the people for the purpose of creating disunity will meet with just punishment in accordance with law and in accordance with the people's will. (clapping).

"Gentlemen, I thank you very much for attending this conference. I have given you a general outline of the accomplishments we have made and the projects which we have made and the projects which we intend to carry out. The Almighty will help us put these projects into practice for the good of the people and the homeland. (clapping).

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